This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 4 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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What is man born for but to be a reformer, a re-maker of what man has done; a renouncer of lies; a restorer of truth and good?—Emerson.

WHOLE NO. 1429 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1938 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 28, NO. 36

## Morrison Reports Gain of Over Million Dues-Paying Members in Two Years

**Secretary-Treasurer of American Federation of Labor, in Labor Day Message, Says C. I. O. Scheme to Control or Annihilate the Federation Has Completely Failed; Cites Enactment of Many Important Labor Laws Securing Fundamental Rights For the Workers as Proving Value of A. F. of L. Non-Partisan Political Policy; Holds Administration of National Labor Relations Act Is Not Satisfactory.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

The outstanding achievement of the American Federation of Labor in adding more than 1,130,000 workers to its dues-paying membership during the last two years, despite the disruptionist and destructive policy of the secessionist Committee for Industrial Organization, is emphasized by Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer of the Federation, in his Labor Day Message for 1938, prepared especially for the Labor Day editions of the Official and Weekly Labor Press and issued from the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor in Washington, D. C.

Mr. Morrison also stressed the numberless benefits secured for working men and women in the legislative field by the consistent and persistent application of the non-partisan political policy of the American Federation of Labor, with especial emphasis on the Anti-Injunction Act and the National Labor Relations Act, which, taken together, guarantee by law the right of working men and women to organize in labor unions of their own choice.

With regard to the National Labor Relations Act, Mr. Morrison said its enactment was sponsored by the American Federation of Labor, but added that the National Labor Relations Board's administration of the measure is unsatisfactory.

The text of Mr. Morrison's Labor Day Message follows:

**INCREASED MEMBERSHIP**

The C. I. O. has failed in its purpose to rule or ruin within the American Federation of Labor. Since the suspension of the ten national and international organizations for refusal to withdraw from the C. I. O., the 102 national and international and local trade and federal labor unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor have gained over 1,130,000 dues-paying members.

Leaders of the C. I. O. include several outstanding figures in the American labor movement. It is not surprising that their attacks upon the American Federation of Labor attracted widespread attention and became the uppermost topic of public discussion. The leaders of the secession movement have had their orgy of publicity. By way of competition our Federation had little to offer in the way of sensationalism.

One valuable lesson to be learned from membership and leadership in the labor movement is that a labor union must have within itself the elements that will make it durable.

Pyrotechnics play no part in the progress of a labor union. Permanent

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## Ornburn Cites Progress in Enlarging Market for Union Goods and Services

**Secretary-Treasurer of A. F. of L. Union Label Trades Department, in Labor Day Message, Declares Greatest Advance Ever Made in One Year by the Department in Extending Market For Union-Made Goods Is Evidenced by Complete Support of Organized Labor Movement and Women's Auxiliaries, Big Success of Union Label and Industrial Exhibition and Growing Popularity of Union Label Weeks.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

One hundred per cent optimism in realizing the aim of making the market for union-made goods and services the fundamental supporting element for higher wages, shorter hours, and improved work conditions for the employes in American industry pervades the Labor Day Message for 1938, prepared by I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor Union Label Trades Department, for the Labor Day editions of the Official and Weekly Labor Press and issued from the headquarters of the Department in the A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

This unqualified success was attributed by Mr. Ornburn to the wholehearted co-operation manifested by the entire A. F. of L. labor movement.

He said the A. F. of L. Union Label and Industrial Exhibition, held last Spring in Cincinnati, Ohio, had achieved such great results in promoting the market for union label goods that it would be repeated annually. He also paid a tribute to the increasing number of Union Label Weeks as indicative of the growing interest in protecting and promoting trade union standards in industry.

The important influence of the buying power of women members of trade unionist families in supporting the market for union label goods is emphasized by Mr. Ornburn as an essential part of the movement to mobilize all trade unionists and their friends to purchase the products made by manufacturers who have agreements with genuine labor unions.

Following is the text of Mr. Ornburn's Labor Day Message:

The Union Label Trades Department has made greater progress in the past year than in any other year since this important department of the American Federation of Labor was established in 1909. This unusual success has been acomplished through the loyal support of the members of Labor Unions and their families.

We are grateful also for the intelligent cooperation we have received from all the officials of National and International Labor Unions, State Federations of Labor, Central Labor Unions, Local Unions, Union Label Leagues, Women's Auxiliaries and numerous Union Label Committees.

We apreciate this volunteer effort and sincerely believe that it will be reflected into the pay envelope of every American worker by obtaining for him

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## Importance of Complete Freedom For Labor Stressed by Rosemund

**President of International Federation of Technical Engineers', Architects, and Draftsmen's Unions Says, in Labor Day Message, That Bureaucratic Dictatorship in Administration of Labor Laws Is a Menace That Must Be Firmly Resisted in Order to Prevent the Labor Movement From Becoming the Automaton of Political Parties.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

The fundamental importance of one hundred per cent freedom for the workers was characterized as the historic ideal of the American Federation of Labor by C. L. Rosemund, president of the International Federation of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's Unions, in his Labor Day Message for 1938 issued from the headquarters of the Federation in the A. F. of L. Building, Washington, D. C.

Pointing out that this full freedom of those who toil for a living means freedom "both from the oppressive employer and from antagonistic government agencies," Mr. Rosemund says the outstanding menace to the interests of working men and women today is found in the administration of labor laws by "oligarchical bureaucracies," which frequently ignore the fundamental purposes for which the legislation was enacted. If this policy is continued, he said, the result would be the complete subjection of the labor movement to the whims of dominant political parties.

The text of Mr. Rosemund's Labor Day Message follows:

**Freedom Is Essential for Labor**

Ever since the establishment back in 1894 of the first Monday in September as Labor's holiday, numerous speeches have been made and articles written for labor publications the country over.

At the time of declaring a national holiday to honor Labor, there was a spirit of intolerance and hostility on the part of employers, the press, and in many instances the judiciary. This same hostility was likewise reflected in some of the acts passed by the state and national legislatures which displayed an attitude of unfriendliness to Labor.

**Every Form of Oppression Opposed**

But in all of the early speeches made and the articles written in commemoration of Labor Day there vibrates

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## Probe of Terrorism by C. I. O. Mine Workers Demanded by the A. F. of L.

**Executive Council Asks Congress to Investigate Ozanic's Charges That Officials of Lewis' Union Have Mobbed Organization Meetings of Progressive Miners, Persuaded Government Agencies to Prosecute Employes of the A. F. of L. Affiliate on False Charges, and Conspired With Coal Mine Operators to Make Agreements Without the Consent of the Employes; Public Officials in Certain Communities Are Charged with Having Connived with C. I. O. Union in Acts of Violence Against Progressive Miners.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, at the seventh day's session of its quarterly meeting at Atlantic City, N. J., demanded a Congressional investigation into charges made by Joe Ozanic, president of the Progressive Miners of America, an affiliate of the A. F. of L., that the United Mine Workers of America, C. I. O. affiliate, abetted by the coal mine operators and officials of the Federal Government and State Governments had brought about a "reign of terror" to bar the American Federation of Labor from the coal fields of Illinois, Kansas and West Virginia.

The Executive Council's demand was made in a resolution adopted after Mr. Ozanic had told the A. F. of L. officials that miners throughout the Illinois-Kansas-West Virginia area had been deprived of their fundamental civil liberties and forced to submit to the dictatorial policies of John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers and chairman of the Committee for Industrial Organization.

Mr. Ozanic, whose union was chartered by the American Federation of Labor in May of this year, presented to the Executive Council what William Green, president of the Federation, described as "detailed evidence and documntary proof" of the following charges:

**Civil Liberties Banned**

"That the very United Mine Workers' leaders who have protested so bitterly about the denial of free speech and assemblage to workers in Harlan County, Ky., and Jersey City, N. J., have themselves imposed far more repressive conditions on workers in communities where the U. M. W. operates, absolutely depriving them of civil liberties.

**Violence and Lawlessness Used**

"That these same U. M. W. leaders have used violence, lawlessness and intimidation—even worse methods than they themselves charged against the Harlan County coal operators who were prosecuted by the Department of Justice—to prevent organization activities of American Federation of Labor unions in the coal fields.

**Police Protection Refused**

"That public officials in certain coal mining communities have refused police protection, failed to supply police protection or admitted their inability to provide such protection to miners seeking to assemble peacefully at organization meetings of American Federation of Labor unions.

**A. F. of L. Union Members Prosecuted On False Charges**

"That U. M. W. officials have prevailed upon State and Federal agencies to prosecute American Federation of Labor union employes on false charges with perjured evidence and bribed witnesses for the purpose of depriving A. F. of L. unions of leadership and rendering miners in these communities helplessly and hopelessly subjugated to the will of the U. M. W.

**Labor Relations Law Violated**

"That U. M. W. officials have conspired with coal mine operators to enter into contracts without the consent of the employes and in outright violation of the National Labor Relations Act and that by these contracts the employes have been stripped of any possible chance of resistance.

**Miners Not Permitted to Select Bargaining Agent**

"That through this conspiracy with employers, the U. M. W. officials have deprived miners of the right to select their collective bargaining agent and to have any voice in determination of the terms and conditions of employment under which they must work or lose their jobs.

**Severe Punishment Imposed on Workers**

"That in the enforcement of this conspiracy officials of the U. M. W. without interference by employers or public

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## COAL AGREEMENT VIOLATES WAGNER ACT, SAYS GREEN

**A. F. of L. President Charges Conspiracy Between Labor Relations Board, Lewis, and Harlan County Coal Operators to Force Miners Into United Mine Workers, C. I. O. Affiliate.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, issued at Atlantic City on August 28, where he was attending the meeting of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, a strongly phrased statement accusing the National Labor Relations Board, John L. Lewis, chairman of the Committee for Industrial Organization, and the coal operators of Harlan County, Ky., with having conspired to violate the National Labor Relations Act by means of a closed shop agreement delivering the miners like purchased commodities into the United Mine Workers of America of which Mr. Lewis is president.

"A more brazen and unlawful alliance to control workers without their knowledge and consent has yet to be disclosed," Mr. Green declared. "A more decisive instance of John L. Lewis using Government machinery

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## A. F. L. COMPLAINTS AGAINST LABOR BOARD GIVEN TO WAGNER

**Executive Council Submits to New York Senator Outlines of Twenty Cases Supporting Charge That Labor Relations Board Definitely Favors the C. I. O. and Opposes the A. F. of L.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York, who sponsored the National Labor Relations Act in the U. S. Senate and was largely responsible for its enactment into law, listened for more than two hours at the sixth day's meeting of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, at Atlantic City, N. J., to complaints by the Council that the maladministration of the Labor Act by the National Labor Relations Board was definitely undermining genuine collective bargaining and destroying the sacredness of labor agreements.

Joseph A. Padway, council for the American Federation of Labor, presented to Senator Wagner and the Executive Council twenty cases regarded by the A. F. of L. as 100 per cent substantiation of its charge that many decisions of the Labor Board have been biased against the Federation and in favor of the C. I. O.

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## A. F. OF L. SEEKS LARGER BENEFITS FOR UNEMPLOYED

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, at the conclusion of the ninth day's session of the Federation's Executive Council at Atlantic City, New Jersey, revealed that the A. F. of L. will take vigorous action for changes in both Federal and State unemployment insurance laws to provide increased benefits for a longer period of time than are paid under existing statutes.

Unemployment insurance, he said, is one way of promoting job security, for if employers find they can reduce taxes as the number of unemployed diminishes there will be less indiscriminate discharging.

Mr. Green said the Federation was not in favor of scaling unemployment insurance taxes in inverse ration to the frequency with which an employer laid off employes. Such a system, he said, would complicate the operation of unemployment insurance law and would leave too much opportunity for manipulation of records.

"The amounts now granted each week in various states under the unemployment insurance laws are inadequate," Mr. Green said. "They are insufficient to maintain a worker and his family in decency and comfort."

Mr. Green revealed that the report prepared by the Executive Council will contain specific recommendations for changes in the unemployment insurance law. That report will be presented to the forthcoming 58th Annual Convention of the Federation which will be held in Houston, Tex., starting October 3.

## A. F. of L. Council Backs Dies Inquiry

**Resolution Praises Its Work in Exposing Subversive Forces and Urges Continuance of Probe Until Sources of Communism, Fascism and Nazism Are Uncovered.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

The work of the Dies Committee of the House of Representatives in its investigation of un-American activities in the United States was unanimously endorsed by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor at the ninth day's session of its quarterly meeting in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

In addition, the Executive Council recommended that the investigation be continued until the "real inspiration and sources" of Nazism, Communism, Fascism and other subversive propaganda are completely disclosed.

**Democracy Must Be Preserved**

The A. F. of L. leaders warned that the rights of labor are inextricably bound up with the preservation of democratic government and institutions and urged all federal agencies to cooperate with the House committee in its attempt to expose "the treacherous propaganda and nefarious activities engaged in by those who would suppress our liberties, destroy our democratic institutions and substitute therefor the autocratic and repressive principles and practices that characterize the totalitarian governments abroad."

**Denunciations of Committee Are Unwarranted**

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, said he made the resolution public because many working people and friends of labor are being misled by denunciations of the Dies Committee by spurious liberals. He said that most of those named in the investigation had not answered the allegations, but had instead hurled epithets at the committee.

"You cannot answer charges or contradict convincing evidence by attempting to belittle and ridicule the work of the Dies Committee," Mr. Green declared at a press conference following the adoption of the resolution by the Executive Council.

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## DISTILLING FIRM SIGNS A. F. OF L. AGREEMENT

**Five-Day Week and Ban on Strikes and Lockouts Included in Contract Finalized by Terre Haute Distillery Workers Union With Merchants Distilling Corporation.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

Terre Haute, Ind.—A significant union contract, bringing definite protection and important advances for hundreds of workers, is now in effect between Distillery Workers' Union No. 20418, of the American Federation of Labor, and the Merchants Distilling Corporation.

The eight-hour day and five-day work week, with time and a half for overtime, applies to all general employees covered, while workers in the Warehouse Department get time and a half for all over seven hours a day. A turn keeper is appointed by the union to see that all overtime in the various departments is equally divided.

All work performed on Sundays, New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day or Christmas, shall be paid for at one and a half times the normal rate. By this rate, a worker normally receiving one dollar an hour would have to be paid two and a half dollars.

Seniority rights are definitely established in the order of employment in the separate departments, generally termed "Department Seniority."

**Closed Shop Provision**

The new contract, which recently became effective, is virtually a closed-

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## HISTORY OF LABOR DAY AS NATIONAL HOLIDAY

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

From year to year the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service has prepared and sent to the Official and Weekly Labor Press for use in their Labor Day editions a number of articles relative to the origin and history of Labor Day.

These articles include:

An account of the legislative history of Labor Day as a national legal holiday compiled from the Congressional Record of 1893-94.

The report of the Labor Committee of the House of Representatives, in 1894, recommending the enactment of the Kyle-Cummings Labor Day Bill. The account published in the New York Herald for September 6, 1882, of the first Labor Day celebration held in New York City on the first Monday in September, 1882.

The origin of Labor Day as told by P. J. McGuire, its originator.

A number of articles interpreting the significance of Labor Day.

It has been suggested that all of these articles be re-published in one issue of the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service.

In compliance with this suggestion, these articles appear on pages two and three of the present issue—September 3, 1938.

## Green Says A. F. of L. Stands Firm For Democracy and Equal Opportunity

**President of American Federation of Labor, in Labor Day Message, Stresses Value of American Institutions for Workers and Assails Communism; Cites Wage Reductions Defeated and Legislation for Unemployment Compensation and National Minimum Wages and Maximum Hours as Outstanding Achievements in Bettering Living Standards of Working Men and Women; Visions New Unity and End of Disruption In Labor Movement.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

The continued progress of the bona fide labor movement, despite the disruptive scheme of a secession group, and emphatic support of equal opportunity for everyone under democratic principles are stressed by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in his Labor Day Message for 1938, prepared for the Labor Day editions of the Official and Weekly Labor Press and issued from the headquarters of the A. F. of L. in Washington, D. C.

Among the outstanding recent achievements of the American Federation of Labor for those who work for a living, Mr. Green emphasized many wage cuts prevented, the advance in benefits paid to jobless workers under unemployment compensation laws, the recent law fixing minimum wages and maximum hours for workers in interstate industries, legislation affirming the right of workers to organize in unions of their choice, and the law determining labor standards for employes of contractors who furnish materials or supplies to the Federal Government.

In conclusion, Mr. Green pleads for the end of disruption and a new unity in the labor movement.

The text of Mr. Green's Labor Day Message follows:

**A. F. OF L. PRESTIGE INCREASED**

It is with sincere gratification that I transmit this Labor Day message. Despite the sharp and serious period of economic demoralization through which we are passing and despite the efforts of a rebel group to build up a dual labor organization, the American Federation of Labor exercises greater prestige and influence in both the political and the economic field than ever before. Our record makes us a dependable, constructive organization that maintains discipline within its own ranks while it keeps progress for wage-earners abreast of progress for the whole of Society.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL**

Our objectives are in line with democratic ideals for we seek equal opportunity for all men and women. We realize that we must build a ladder round upon round, making it possible for all to mount to the plane of equal

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## A. F. of L. Non-Partisan Political Policy Will Continue, Green Declares

**Office Seekers Record on Labor Questions and Especially Their Support of Measures Backed by American Federation of Labor Are the Only A. F. of L. Test, He Declares; Disapproves Independent Labor Party and Condemns C. I. O. Political Party.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

The American Federation of Labor will continue its policy of supporting the friends and opposing the enemies of labor on a non-partisan political basis. This was made plain by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement at Atlantic City, N. J., following the conclusion of the eighth day's meeting of the A. F. of L. Executive Council, in session there.

Reviewing the results of the primary elections in many parts of the country, Mr. Green said they indicated that the non-partisan basis had proved practical and successful, while the independent political action plan applied by the Committee for Industrial Organization, headed by John L. Lewis, could be classed as a failure.

It was made clear by Mr. Green that the only concern of the American Federation of Labor was the legislative record and public utterances of candidates for office on questions vitally affecting the workers and particularly their support or non-support of measures endorsed by the A. F. of L.

**A. F. of L. Victories in Primaries**

As an indication of the non-partisan character of the American Federation of Labor political policy Mr. Green listed a number of candidates in both the Democratic and Republican parties who won in recent primaries with the backing of the A. F. of L.

Senators Ellison D. Smith of South

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## Miss Perkins Lists Many Recent Gains for American Wage Earners

**Secretary of Labor, in Labor Day Message, Lauds Fair Labor Standards Act, Social Security Act, and National Labor Relations Act as Providing Greater Justice for Working Men and Women; Says Weekly Wages of Factory Workers Increased from $77,083,000 in March, 1933, to $137,162,000 in July, 1938, a Gain of $60,079,000.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

The outstanding importance of the Fair Labor Standards Act in providing for minimum wages and maximum hours for workers in interstate industry and in ending child labor is emphasized by Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, in her Labor Day Message for 1938. She also places emphasis upon the improved employment conditions secured for toilers by the Labor Relations and Social Security Acts.

In the field of improved economic conditions the Secretary pointed out

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## Butler Lauds Winant for Chief Of International Labor Office

**Director of Geneva Body, Scheduled to Retire December 31, Expresses Regret at Losing Official Contacts with American Labor.**

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

A warm tribute to John G. Winant, director-elect of the International Labor Office, was paid by Harold B. Butler, present I. L. O. director, in his "Labor Day Message to the Workers of the United States and Canada," issued by the Information and Publicity Service of the American Federation of Labor from the Federation's headquarters in Washington, D. C.

Mr. Butler expressed his appreciation of the co-operation given to him by American labor, from whom he said he had received "much help, hospitality and friendliness."

The text of Mr. Butler's Labor Day Message follows:

In spite of the troubles and uncertainties of the moment, I think there is reason for viewing the future with courage and confidence.

Although the last year has seen another recession, another turn in the cycle of prosperity and depression, everything seems to point to its being shorter and shallower than the slump of 1929-32. Many countries have been little affected by it, and even in those which have felt it most there are signs of recovery setting in.

I am glad to think that the relations between the International Labor Organization and the United States have become closer every year. We were happy to welcome the Secretary of Labor at this year's session of the In-

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## First Labor Day Celebration Was Held Fifty-Six Years Ago by New York City Central Labor Union

### On September 5, 1882, Thousands of Enthusiastic Trade Unionists, Headed by Grand Marshal McCabe, Enlivened by Many Bands and Keyed Up to the Spirit of the Slogan "All Men Were Created Alike and Equal," Marched in Solid Phalanxes Through the Streets of the Nation's Metropolis, Lined With Cheering Citizens, to Union Square.

### Labor Leaders Who Reviewed the Parade Included P. J. McGuire, Founder of the Carpenters Brotherhood and Originator of Labor Day; John Flannery of the National Miners' Union; Gilbert Rockwood, Assistant Secretary of the Knights of Labor; Mayor T. V. Powderly of Scranton; John Swinton, Labor Journalist, and Louis Post, Single Tax Advocate.

### Banners Demanded "Eight Hours for Work, Eight Hours for Rest, Eight Hours for Recreation"; Abolition of Prison Labor, Rent Boycott, Labor Political Action, and Tenement House Reform—Money Monopoly and Private Ownership of Land Condemned—Celebration Ended with Picnic in Elm Park.

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

*Editor's Note.—In the Spring of 1882, P. J. McGuire, founder of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America and First Vice President of the American Federation of Labor from 1890 to 1900, suggested to the Central Labor Union of New York City the idea of setting aside one day in the year as a Labor Holiday. The Central Labor Union agreed with the plan and organized a Labor Day parade and festival on the first Monday in September, 1882. This was the first Labor Day Celebration in the United States.*

*The New York Herald for September 6, 1882, gave an extended account of the celebration, including a description of the colorful parade and a list of labor leaders who reviewed the parade in Union Square. The Herald's story follows:*

### LABOR'S DRESS PARADE—TEN THOUSAND MEN MARCHING IN LINE—PLAIN HINTS TO DEMAGOGUES—BANNERS, MOTTOES, SPEECHES AND OPEN AIR JOLLITY.

Nature did her best yesterday to please the Central Labor Union, whose members paraded to convince the political world of their strength. A fair sky, a gentle breeze and not too warm a sun greeted the men who reported to their different headquarters at eight o'clock in the morning.

As usual on occasions of this kind, the promised spectacle far eclipsed the actual one, and yet there were men enough in the parade to surprise some of the onlookers. Of the fifty thousand promised there were perhaps ten thousand in line at a liberal estimate. The ten thousand, however, made a fine appearance and were applauded loudly by the spectators who thronged the sidewalks all along the route.

Grand Marshal McCabe may take some credit to himself for the manner in which the parade was conducted. The participants were early on hand and they marched like soldiers when the order came to move. The first division, under Roger Burke as marshal, composed of workingmen south of Canal Street and from the suburbs, formed on Mall Street, right resting on Broadway.

This was to lead the way and would have started at the agreed time of ten o'clock but for the tardy arrival of the Newark jewellers, who finally came up from the ferry nearly five hundred strong and were assigned to the right of the line. As it was the march up Broadway began at about half-past ten.

At Fourth Street the second division fell in. It had marshalled its forces, consisting of workingmen of the east side above Canal Street, under the direction of Joseph A. Lies, at Cooper Institute. The workingmen of the west side above Canal Street constituted the third and last division and formed at Washington Square under Marshal M. McGrath. They fell in behind the second division when the column reached Lafayette Place.

#### At the Reviewing Stand

The line of march was from Broadway to Fourth Avenue at Union Square, on to Seventh Street, to Fifth Avenue, to Forty-second Street, where the men were dismissed. The Park Department Building on the north side of Union Square was used for the reviewing stand. Half a hundred policemen under command of Captain Williams cleared the broad pavement in front of the stand. Of a hundred persons who had been invited to review the procession at this point about fifty responded.

The delegates to the convention of the Knights of Labor being held in the city were well represented. A Sister of Charity who took a seat upon the stand early attracted some curiosity until it was discovered that she was there for the purpose of taking up a collection among the Park Department employes whose pay day it was.

Among those on the reviewing stand were: August Ernst, John Swinton, Robert Blissert, P. J. McGuire, Louis Post, William Hanson, all of New York; Mayor T. V. Powderly, of Scranton, Pa.; Gilbert Rockwood, of Pittsburgh, Pa., Assistant Grand Secretary of the Knights of Labor; T. J. McBride, of Pittsburgh; Miles McPaddin, of Pittsburgh; John Elliot, of Baltimore; J. A. Maderia, of St. Louis; John Flannery, of the Miners' National Union; Alexander C. Rankin, of Pittsburgh; J. L. Wright, of Pennsylvania; C. T. Moore, of Newcastle, Pa.; Andrew Burtt, of Pittsburgh; John F. Daly and Charles Ward, of Providence, R. I.; Charles A. Litchinson, of Marblehead, Mass., and Henry Appleton, of Providence.

#### Music and Marching

The ample sidewalks of Union Square were crowded with people when, at about eleven o'clock, the head of the column emerged from Broadway. Two minutes later the air was resonant with cheers and the music of many bands. A small squad of mounted police, commanded by Roundsman Gannon, rode at the head of the column.

Then followed Grand Marshal McCabe on horseback, Marshal Burke on foot and a small detachment of Bricklayers' Union No. 4, wearing white aprons and carrying no clubs, although they had been chosen by the Central Labor Union to act as special police. They may have had bricks in their pockets. Anyhow he would have been a bold man who undertook to disturb their peace.

As the first band passed the stand playing "Killarney" with all its might it reminded one of the 17th of March. The Jewellers' Union, of Newark, came upon the heels of the musicians, and their appearance fully justified their right to the place of honor in the procession. Their name was legion, and for the most part they were young and well dressed, wearing dark clothes, Derby hats and badges on their lapels. They began that interchange of salutes with those on the stand which was to continue for three-quarters of an hour.

The commanders of the different organizations lifted their hats to the reviewers, and generally the rank and file gave a little cheer in addition. The Newark jewellers passed four abreast, and were followed by the New York jewellers. The first banner of the great number carried in the parade to catch the eyes of those on the stand was inscribed:

> Who Stole the Tenement House Reform Bill?

The next banner demanded the abolition of the contract prison labor system, and there were several of the same kind in the procession. It was carried by the manufacturing shoemakers, who marched about 400 strong and flung several large-sized American flags to the breeze.

The New York Friendly Society of Operative Masons was preceded by a huge banner, and one of its members held high a sentiment which many of the spectators applauded:

> Indications Are That November 7th Will Be a Cold Day For Politicians

The Cloth Cutters' Association "downed with" the convict labor system on one of their banners, declared that labor pays all taxes on a second, and on a third urged that the stores should be closed at six o'clock. The Advance Labor Club, which followed, was weak in numbers, but strong in its sentiments. One of its banners declared there must be no money monopoly and another read:

> Pay No Rent

This startling motto excited the risibles of many spectators and the alarm, perhaps, of some of the onlooking landlords. Mr. P. J. McGuire, who belongs to the Advance Labor Club, allayed the apprehensions of his companions on the reviewing stand by assuring them that the motto was not intended for immediate application.

#### The Second Division

After the Hat Makers' Protective Union had passed, the second division, commanded by Marshal Lies and headed by some of the special police from Bricklayers' Union No. 4, came up.

If allusion has been spared to the bands of music it must not be imagined that there were none. From first to last the parade was amply provided with them, and every player in every band was an independent labor party by himself. "Marching On to Victory" was inscribed upon a huge banner at the head of the second division, and behind it came the Upholsterers' Union of New York and vicinity and the German Painters' Union. The latter paraphrased our forefathers' declaration on one of its banners which declared that "all men were created alike, and equal."

The Journeymen Printers' Union came next, with the motto that no man could make land and, therefore, no man should own it.

#### The Third Division

The bricklayers led off the third division, which was commanded by Marshal McGrath. There surely could not have been many bricks laid in the city yesterday judging from the number of layers in the parade. Possibly the nature of the printed order calling them out had something to do with their heavy representation. It read: "All members not reporting on Tuesday at eight A. M. will be fined $4." In their ranks were two wagons each containing arches of brick. One of their banners read:

> Eight Hours for Work
> Eight Hours for Rest
> Eight Hours for Recreation

It was altogether one of the most orderly of parades. The reporter saw only one of the paraders under the evil influence, and he was trying to get on the reviewing stand for the purpose of making a speech. Of course so large a turnout necessitated the closing of some business establishments, but the Central Labor Union had advised all whose employers desired them to work to do so.

#### At Elm Park

When the paraders had scattered through the picnic grounds, when the throng that had come to attend the festival had reached them, and when the ceremonies of the day were fairly inaugurated Elm Park presented a rare spectacle. The whole area was thickly crowded, there was not a bit of room to spare on the dancing platform and out of doors people sat in masses and stood in compact multitudes.

It had been arranged that each union would have a certain portion of the grounds marked out for itself, and this facilitated a greater fraternizing than otherwise could have been observed. As it was, fellow workers and their families sat together, joked together and caroused together. Good feeling everywhere prevailed, and although the ordinary picnic fluids in time made speech loud and gesticulation violent there were few breaches of good order.

Mr. Franklin, who served as captain of the Police Committee, had an efficient corps and was generally about to see that peace and harmony was maintained, and indeed it was a remarkable spectacle to see so many rough men, who would be likely in such conviviality to become troublesome, sitting together without a murmur or dispute. Americans and English, Irish and Germans, they all hobnobbed and seemed on a friendly footing, as though the common cause had established a sense of closer brotherhood.

There was a platform on the grounds where the speaking was done through the afternoon and from it about half-past two o'clock till nightfall a large concourse were addressed by John Swinton, Louis Post, Mr. Appleton, of Rhode Island; Robert Blissert, and Messrs. Maguire, King, Hansen and others.

With evening came a still larger throng and the grounds were fairly packed. There were booths scattered over them, all kinds of amusements afoot and by fits and starts pyrotechnics sent their polychromatic glare over the place. On the dancing platform the fun was fast and furious. It was crowded with a revolving, capering, merry multitude, among whom decorum was maintained by Floor Managers Howe, Caville, Cleary, Corry and Adams.

Altogether the summernight's festival was a big affair of its kind and a jolly one, as most of the participants can well attest.

## CONVENTION OF BUILDING TRADES DEPT. IS CALLED

### Delegates of A. F. of L. Unit Will Meet in Houston, Texas, September 28.

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

Washington, D. C.—The thirty-second annual convention of the Building and Construction Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor will convene in the Rice Hotel, Houston, Texas, September 28, 1938, at 10:00 a. m., and continue in session until the business of the convention is completed, according to the convention call issued here by Joseph A. McInerney, president, and Herbert Rivers, secretary-treasurer of the Department.

"The basis of representation in the convention," the call said, "shall be: From national or international unions of less than 4,000 members, one delegate; 4,000 or more, two delegates; 8,000 or more, three delegates; 16,000 or more, four delegates; 32,000 or more, five delegates, and so on. Organizations having seven or more delegates, each such delegate shall on roll call be entitled to two votes. A roll call shall be held upon the demand of one-fourth of all delegates whose credentials have been accepted and who have been seated in the convention."

With regard to qualifications for representation in the convention the call declared:

"No organization that has seceded, or been expelled or suspended by this department, the American Federation of Labor, or by any national or international organization connected therewith, or any local that refuses to join the national or international of its trade, shall, while under such penalty be allowed representation or recognition in this Department, or in any local or state council under penalty of suspension of the body violating this section."

"No organization shall be entitled to representation unless such organization is in good standing in the American Federation of Labor, and shall have applied for and received a certificate of affiliation in the Building and Construction Trades Department at least three months prior to a convention of this department, and no person shall be recognized as a delegate whose national or international organization is not affiliated with this Department."

## CONVENTION OF UNION LABEL TRADES CALLED

### Delegates of A. F. of L. Department Will Assemble in Houston, Texas, September 29.

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

Washington, D. C.—The thirty-first annual convention of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor will convene in the Rice Hotel, Houston, Texas, at 1:30 p. m., September 29, 1938, and continue in session until the business of the convention is completed, according to the convention call issued here by Matthew Woll, president, I. M. Ornburn, secretary-treasurer, and the five vice presidents of the Department.

"Representation in the convention," the call said, "shall be upon the basis of the average amount of tax paid during the year, and shall be from national or international unions. For less than 4,000 members, one delegate; 4,000 or more, two delegates; 8,000 or more, three delegates; 16,000 or more four delegates, and so on, on this basis."

Pointing out that the delegates shall be elected at least thirty days previous to the convention, the call added:

"No organization shall be entitled to representation unless such organization is in good standing in the American Federation of Labor and shall have paid its per capita tax up to and including the month of August immediately preceding the convention, or shall have applied for and received a certificate of affiliation at least three months prior to a convention of the Union Label Trades Department; and no person shall be recognized as a delegate whose national or international organization is not affiliated with the department."

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## Origin of Labor Day Described By P. J. McGuire, Its Founder

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

*Editor's Note.—P. J. McGuire, founder of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, and the originator of Labor Day, wrote an article for the October, 1897, issue of the American Federationist, the official journal of the American Federation of Labor, giving an account of Labor Day. Mr. McGuire was elected secretary of the American Federation of Labor in 1886, holding that office during 1887 and 1888. He was elected second vice-president in 1889, first vice-president in 1890, and continued to serve as a member of the Executive Council until 1900. McGuire's article follows.*

### LABOR DAY—ITS AND SIGNIFICANCE

By P. J. McGUIRE
First Vice-President, American Federation of Labor, 1890-1900

On this day the hosts of labor shout their Hosannahs!

From a thousand groves and hillsides by rippling brooks and gurgling streams, comes the glad acclaim.

No festival of martial glory or warrior's renown is this; no pageant pomp of warlike conquest, no glory of fratricidal strife attend this day.

It is dedicated to peace, civilization and the triumphs of industry. It is a demonstration of fraternity and the harbinger of a better age—a more chivalrous time, when labor shall be best honored and well rewarded.

#### Toilers Are Honored

Pagan feasts and Christian observances have come down to us through the long ages. But it was reserved for this century, and for the American people, to give birth to Labor Day. In this they honor the toilers of the earth, and pay homage to those who from rude nature have delved and carved the comfort and grandeur we behold.

More than all, the thought, the conception, yea the very inspiration of this holiday came from men in the ranks of the working people—men active in uplifting their fellows, and leading them to better conditions. It came from a little group in New York City, the Central Labor Union, which had just been formed, and which in later years attained widespread influence.

#### Birth of Labor Day

On May 8, 1882, the writer made the proposition. He urged the propriety of setting aside one day in the year to be designated as "Labor Day," and to be established as a general holiday for the laboring classes. He advised the day should first be celebrated by a street parade, which would publicly show the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations. Next the parade should be followed by a picnic or festival in some grove, and the proceeds of the same be divided on this semi-cooperative plan, viz:

Each union or organization should get as many tickets as it desired to sell; the more sold the greater would be the profits to the society selling them. Each society should be allowed to keep all the money realized by sale of tickets through its members. In the end each of the bodies participating should contribute to the expenses in proportion to its membership.

#### First Monday in September Selected

It was further argued Labor Day should be observed as one festal day in the year for public tribute to the genius of American industry. There were other worthy holidays representative of the religious, civil and military spirit, but none representative of the industrial spirit—the great vital force of every nation. He suggested the first Monday in September of every year for such a holiday, as it would come at the most pleasant season of the year, nearly midway between the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving, and would fill a wide gap in the chronology of legal holidays. Many were the cogent reasons he advanced, and at once the idea was enthusiastically embraced.

#### First Labor Day Festival

The first Labor Day parade and festival of the Central Labor Union of New York City on September 5, 1882, was simply an imposing success. From that day on, it became a fixed institution in the United States, observed today in every city of the land. The plan was next endorsed by the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor and the general assembly of the Knights of Labor. It spread rapidly from city to city, and from town to town. City councils and State legislatures took it up, and made it a legal holiday, until finally, June 28, 1894, it became a nation holiday, by act of Congress.

#### Power of Organized Labor

There was a time, and it is not many years ago, when the trade union and the labor movement of America were too insignificant for Presidents, Governors, Mayors, City Councilmen or public men to consider, much less honor. Trade unions were of no consequence; trade unionists were harmless fanatics. Now, they are of more weight, more influential, more powerful. No longer can they be sneered down or cajoled; they must be met, they must be recognized. What mighty portent is in their movement? In their hands rest the weal of the worker, his welfare and improvement.

With hands and hearts together, with united funds and united interests, to stand for one another, day after day, year in and year out, in good times and in bad, who dare say what can they not accomplish? In the workshop and on the forum, at the ballot box and in every field of endeavor, they can right every wrong and eradicate every evil oppressive to the working people.

## House Labor Committee, in 1894, Urged Passage of Labor Day Bill

### Lawrence E. McGann, Committee Chairman, Said the National Holiday Would "Tend to Increase the Feeling of Common Brotherhood Among Men of All Crafts and Callings."

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

On September 6, 1893, Representatives Amos J. Cummings of New York and Robert E. De Forest of Connecticut introduced bills in the Fifty-third Congress making Labor Day a legal holiday. Representative Cummings' bill was officially called "H. R. 28" and Representative De Forest's bill "H. R. 334." Both bills were referred to the House Committee on Labor, of which Lawrence E. McGann, of Illinois, was chairman.

On may 15, 1894, Chairman McGann, for the Committee on Labor, submitted a report to the House recommending the enactment of the Cummings bill.

The committee stressed the importance of the proposed holiday as an important element in maintaining the "nobility of labor" and developing in the worker the feeling "that he holds an honorable as well as a useful place in the body politic."

#### Text of Committee's Report

Following is the text of the Committee's report:

"The Committee on Labor, to whom was referred the bills (H. R. 28 and H. R. 334) making the first Monday in September, known as 'labor day', a legal holiday, beg leave to report as follows:

"The bills provide, in substance, that the first Monday in September in each year, being the day celebrated and known as labor day, be made a legal public holiday.

#### Equality and Dignity of Labor

"The use of national holidays is to emphasize some great event or principle in the minds of the people by giving them a day of rest and recreation, a day of enjoyment, in commemoration of it. By making one day in each year a public holiday for the benefit of working men the equality and dignity of labor is emphasized. Nothing is more important to the public weal than that the nobility of labor be maintained. So long as the laboring man can feel that he holds an honorable as well as a useful place in the body politic, so long will he be a loyal and faithful citizen.

"The celebration of Labor Day as a national holiday will in time naturally lead to an honorable emulation among the different crafts beneficial to them and to the whole public. It will tend to increase the feeling of common brotherhood among men of all crafts and callings and at the same time kindle an honorable desire in each craft to surpass the rest.

#### Organized Workers Request Holiday

"There can be no substantial objection to making one day in the year a national holiday for the benefit of labor. The labor organization of the whole country, representing the great body of our artisan population, request it. They are the ones most interested. They desire and should have it.

"If the farmers, manufacturers, and professional men are indifferent to the measure, or even oppose it, which there is no reason to believe, that still would constitute no good objection, for their work can be continued on holidays as well as on other days if they so desire it.

"Workingmen should have one day in the year peculiarly their own. Nor will their employers lose anything by it. Workingmen are benefited by a reasonable amount of rest and recreation. Whatever makes a workingman more of a man makes him more useful as a craftsman.

#### State Labor Day Laws

"The first Monday in September is known as labor day and is recognized as a legal holiday in Colorado, Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Alabama, Delaware, Oregon, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Montana, New Hampshire, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin, and Washington. In all these States the legislatures have passed a law recognizing labor day as a legal holiday.

"The Federal Government seems to have confined its duties in the premises to enacting laws for legal holidays in the District of Columbia. Christmas, the 1st day of January, the 22d day of February, the 30th day of May, and the 4th day of July are now made by law public holidays.

"The bill simply provides that the first Monday of September in each year is made a legal holiday to all intents and purposes in the same manner as Christmas and other holidays now provided by the United States statutes.

"Your committee respectfully recommend that bill H. R. 28 be passed."

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## GOMPERS VISIONED LABOR DAY DEVOTED TO TOILERS' CAUSE

### "It Was Not Given to, But Conquered by Labor, and Established as a Holiday Before Any Legislature, State or National, Enacted It into Law," Declared First President of A. F. of L.

*Editor's Note.—The late Samuel Gompers was President of the American Federation of Labor in 1894 when Congress enacted the law making Labor Day a legal holiday. In an editorial in the American Federationist for September, 1898, Mr. Gompers discussed the deep significance of Labor Day as a special holiday for the workers. The editorial follows.*

### LABOR DAY—WHAT IT PORTENDS

By SAMUEL GOMPERS

No day in the calendar is a greater fixture, one which is more truly regarded as a real holiday, or one which is so surely destined to endure for all time, than the first Monday in September of each recurring year, Labor Day. With time, this day of the year is taking deeper hold in the respect and confidence of the people.

It is regarded as the day for which the toilers in past centuries looked forward, when their rights and their wrongs might be discussed, placed upon a higher plane of thought and feeling; that the workers of our day may not only lay down their tools of labor for a holiday, but upon which they may touch shoulders in marching phalanx and feel the stronger for it; meet at their parks, groves and grounds, and by appropriate speech, counsel with, and pledge to, each other that the coming year shall witness greater effort than the preceding in the grand struggle to make mankind free, true and noble.

#### Workers' Struggle Against Tyranny

Labor Day differs in every essential from the other holidays of the year of any country. All other holidays are, in a more or less degree, connected with conflicts and battles, of man's prowess over man, of strife and discord for greed or power, of glories achieved by one nation over another.

Labor Day, on the other hand, marks a new epoch in the annals of human history. It is at once a manifestation of reverence for the struggles of the masses against tyranny and injustice from time immemorial; an impetus to battle for the right in our day for the men, women and children of our time, and gives hope and encouragement for the attainment of the aspirations for the future of the human family. It is devoted to no man, living or dead; to no sect, sex, race, or nation. It is founded upon the highest principles of humanity, is as broad in its scope as the universe. It was not given to, but conquered by labor, and established as a holiday before any legislature, State or National, enacted it into law.

#### Organization Necessary to Free Labor

The marching toilers in the Labor Day demonstrations signalize no martial glory, brutal domination, conquests or war-like pomp. They are, in their essence, the manifestations of the growing intelligence of the workers who recognize that peace is as essential to successful industry and real progress as air is to lung-breathing animals; that justice to the toilers has too long been denied; that in the midst of the civilization at the close of the nineteenth century, wrongs too gross, widespread, and well known to require mention here, still abound; that if man is to be free in the time to come, "eternal vigilance" must be exercised, organization of the workers proclaimed, maintained and extended; education of the educated as well as of the masses, be furthered and nurtured; and agitation of labor's wrongs endured and rights denied, undertaken, with all the zest and energy begotten by devotion to a cause which is at once holy, noble, pure, lofty, just, wise and humane.

#### Consecrated to the Toilers' Cause

All through history, holiday observances and feasts have abounded; but it was reserved for our time and for the workers of our country to first proclaim and observe a day devoted to the toilers, the toilers' cause, the cause of justice—this day of days, consecrated by the sufferings borne, the battles fought, the aspirations, often inarticulate yearnings, of the masses for their final emancipation, the triumphant enthronement of absolute justice, and the effacement of the brutal, unnatural cause of "man's inhumanity to man which makes countless numbers mourn."

To make our lives and environments of today more in harmony with the wonderful achievements of modern industry, to participate in the results—rewards of the beautiful peace and our bountiful labor, no less than in receiving deserved renown for our services and sacrifices in a just war, we must organize more thoroughly, more compactly, than ever.

#### "Workers, You Can Be Free!"

The trade unions, scoffed, denounced, ridiculed in turn, and antagonized as no other organization on earth, are now being argued with, their merits, as the wage earners' defenders, protectors, and advance guard for a juster reward for the wealth producers are more widely discussed and generally conceded.

Labor Day is now the general tribute of our entire people to the victories won, the vantage ground gained, by organized labor and the hope entertained that that happier, truer life among men may soon be ushered in—that day of which poets have sung, philosophers dreamed, and workers struggled for ages.

Workers, you can be free! You can not only proclaim, but establish, justice, freedom, and "good will toward all mankind," if you will but organize, be true to yourselves and to each other.

## Life and Work of P. J. McGuire, Father of Labor Day for Toilers

### Founded Carpenters' Brotherhood, of Which He Was General Secretary for 20 Years; Wrote Call for Trade Union Convention, in 1886, Which Formed the American Federation of Labor; Served as an Officer of the A. F. of L. from 1886 to 1900; Died in 1906 While Active in Trade Union Work.

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

Peter J. McGuire, the originator of Labor Day and founder of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, was born in New York City on July 6, 1852, and died in Philadelphia in 1906 at the age of 54. At the time of his death he was quite actively engaged in organizing work for the Carpenters' Brotherhood.

Mr. McGuire attended the New York public schools until he was twelve years of age, when he was compelled to secure employment in a dry goods store. Later he was apprenticed to the carpenter's trade, studying in Cooper Institute after his day's work was done. He joined a labor union in 1872, and from that time took an active interest in the trade union movement.

#### Founds Carpenters' Brotherhood

In May, 1881, Mr. McGuire, who was then working in St. Louis, Mo., started a four-page journal called "The Carpenter," whose slogan was the consolidation of the various scattered groups of organized carpenters. Three months later he sent out the call for a conference of organized carpenters to convene in Chicago on August 8. The conference was attended by thirty-six delegates representing twelve local unions with a combined membership of about 2,000. It was this conference which founded the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. Mr. McGuire lived to see the Carpenters' Brotherhood become one of the largest and strongest of American trade unions, and for twenty years was its general secretary.

In 1881 he was a delegate to the International Workingmen's Congress in Switzerland, and took advantage of the opportunity offered to make a thorough study of the economic conditions of European working men and women.

#### Becomes A. F. of L. Officer

Mr. McGuire's connection with the American Federation of Labor began when he wrote the call for the Convention of Trade Unions which met at Columbus, Ohio, December 8, 1886, and formed the American Federation of Labor.

The sixth convention of the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions of the United States and Canada, which was held in Columbus at the same time, dissolved with the recommendation that its member unions affiliate with the A. F. of L.

Mr. McBride was secretary of the American Federation of Labor up to 1888. He was elected second vice-president in 1889, first vice-president in 1890, and continued to serve as a member of the Executive Council until 1900. He and President Samuel Gompers were the Federation's delegates to the British Trades Union Congress in 1895.

#### Father of Labor Day

In the Spring of 1882, at a meeting of the Central Labor Union of New York City, he advanced the idea of setting aside one day in the year as a special holiday for the workers. The Union agreed with the plan and staged the first Labor Day celebration in the United States on the first Monday of September of that year. Later every State legislature and the Congress of the United States enacted laws making Labor Day a legal holiday.

Mr. McGuire was popular as a labor speaker, having addressed meetings in every State in the Union and in many of the Canadian provinces. According to the records of the Carpenters' Brotherhood he spoke to over 2,100 audiences of workers.

#### Tablet Placed in Carpenters' Headquarters

His active interest in the labor movement is shown by the fact that two weeks before his death he helped reorganize Local No. 277 of the Carpenters' Brotherhood in Philadelphia and was present on the night when the local was reinstated in the Brotherhood.

On April 11, 1910, a bronze tablet in memory of Mr. McGuire, a gift and tribute from the Chicago District Council and Affiliated Unions of the Carpenters' Brotherhood, was placed at the foot of the stairs leading to the second floor at the headquarters of the Brotherhood in Indianapolis, Ind. In addition to the likeness of Mr. McGuire the tablet carried the following inscription:

> "In memory of Peter J. McGuire, Founder of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Organized August 12th, 1881. A Loving Tribute from Chicago District Council and Affiliated Locals."

The General Executive Board and other officers of the Carpenters' Brotherhood attended the ceremonies accompanying the installation of the tablet, which was presented by C. A. Aimin, M. D. Philp and Charles Grassl, representing the Chicago Council, with appropriate remarks paying tribute to the staunch trade union record and labor achievement of Mr. McGuire.

In receiving the tablet remarks extolling the life and work of Mr. McGuire were made by William D. Huber, general president of the Brotherhood; Frank Duffy, general secretary; Thomas Neale, general treasurer; William G. Schardt, president of the Executive Board, and by every other member of the Board.

# Legislative History of Labor Day As National Holiday for Workers

### U. S. Congress, in 1894, When Grover Cleveland Was President, Unanimously Passed the Bill, Jointly Introduced by Senator Kyle of South Dakota and Representative Cummings of New York, Designating First Monday in September as "A Legal Public Holiday."

### Senator Cockrell of Missouri Wanted Date Changed to First Day in September in the Interest of Legislative "Symmetry"—Senator Sherman of Ohio Objected to Labor Day Falling on Sunday Because It Would Shock His "Presbyterianism"; Bill Was Signed by President Cleveland on June 28, 1894.

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

The movement to secure the enactment of legislation to make Labor Day a general holiday began in the 1884 convention of the American Federation of Labor, which unanimously adopted the following resolution introduced by A. C. Cameron, a delegate from the Chicago Trades and Labor Alliance:

> **"Resolved, That the first Monday in September of each year be set apart as a laborers' national holiday, and that we recommend its observance by all wage workers, irrespective of sex, calling or nationality."**

The 1886 A. F of. L. convention recommended that all wage earners, irrespective of sex, calling or nationality, observe the First Monday in September as Labor's national holiday "until it shall be as uncommon for a man to work on that day as on Independence Day."

During the next few years organized labor devoted its attention to securing State legislation making Labor Day a legal State holiday. By 1893 the legislatures of twenty-three States had enacted Labor Day laws.

#### Labor Day Bills in Fifty-third Congress

In the meantime officials of the American Federation of Labor endeavored to have Congress enact a law establishing Labor Day as a national legal holiday.

Shortly after the convening of the special session of the Fifty-third Congress, called by President Grover Cleveland in August, 1893, to consider the serious financial question which confronted the country, bills setting apart Labor Day as a national holiday were introduced by Senator James H. Kyle of South Dakota, Representative Amos J. Cummings of New York, and Representative Robert E. De Forest of Connecticut.

There was no opposition to the bills in either House, but the parliamentary path which they had to travel is interesting to students of legislative procedure.

The Congressional Record for August 28, 1893, in its account of the Senate proceedings for that day, under the heading "Bills Introduced," printed the following:

"Mr. Kyle introduced a bill (S. 730) making Labor Day a legal holiday, which was read twice by its title, and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor."

In the House proceedings for September 6, under the heading "Bills, Memorials, and Resolutions," the following announcements were made:

"By Mr. CUMMINGS: A bill (H. R. 28) making Labor Day a legal holiday—to the Committee on Labor."

"By Mr. De FOREST: A bill (H. R. 334) making the first Monday in September, otherwise called Labor Day, a national holiday—to the Committee on Labor."

#### Kyle Bill Reported to Senate

There was evidently no opposition to the Kyle bill, for on February 13, 1894, under the heading "Reports of Committees," the Congressional Record printed this item:

"Mr. KYLE, from the Committee on Education and Labor, to whom was referred the bill (S. 730) making Labor Day a legal holiday, reported it without amendment."

#### Cummings Bill Reported to House

The House proceedings for May 15, 1894, under the heading "Labor Day a Legal Holiday," contained this notice:

"Mr. McGANN, from the Committee on Labor, reported favorably the bill (H. 28) making Labor Day a legal holiday; which was referred to the House Calendar, and with the accompanying report ordered printed." The report recommended the enactment of the bill.

#### Senate Considers Kyle Bill

In the Senate the Kyle bill came up for consideration on June 22, 1894. The following account of the proceedings is taken from the Congressional Record for that day:

"The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Calendar under Rule VIII is in order.

"Mr. KYLE. We are on the Calendar just about down to Order of Business No. 245, which is Senate Bill 730. I ask that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the bill (S. 730) making Labor Day a legal holiday.

"There being no objection, the Senate, as in Committee of the Whole, proceeded to consider the bill; which was read as follows:

> **"'Be it enacted, etc., That the first Monday in September of each year, being the day known and celebrated as labor's holiday, is hereby made a legal public holiday, to all intents and purposes, in the same manner as Christmas, the 1st day of January, the 22d day of February, the 30th of May and the 4th day of July are now by law made public holidays.'**

#### Labor Asks First Monday in September

"Mr. KYLE. I should like to say, for the information of those who do not know, that something like twenty-five States of the United States have now settled upon the first Monday of September or the first day of October. In order to make the observance uniform, that all may enjoy vacation privilege upon the same day, the labor organizations of the country have united in asking that the first Monday of September be set apart as a holiday."

This explanation of the bill by Senator Kyle was followed by a brief discussion participated in by Senator William B. Allison of Iowa, Senator Francis M. Cockrell of Missouri, Senator John H. Mitchell of Oregon, and Senator John Sherman of Ohio. The only objection raised was by Senator Cockrell, who believed that for the sake of "symmetry" in national holidays Labor Day should be fixed for the first day in September instead of the first Monday.

#### Cockrell Urges First Day in September

The Congressional Record gives this account of the debate:

"Mr. ALLISON. Is the day in the bill the 1st day of September?

"Mr. COCKRELL. The first Monday of September. It ought to be the 1st day of September. I move to strike out 'Monday' and insert 'day,' so as to read, 'the first day of September.'

"Mr. MITCHELL of Oregon. Then it would come on Sunday every few years.

"Mr. COCKRELL. So does the 4th of July, so does any fixed holiday fall upon Sunday occasionally.

"Mr. MITCHELL of Oregon. It should be fixed on a week day.

#### Sherman Abhors Sunday Holidays

"Mr. SHERMAN. I think if the labor organizations have fixed their own time, as it is said twenty-five States have done, we had better let them have a week day. I do not myself like to encourage holidays on Sunday There is too much old Presbyterianism in me for that.

#### Cockrell Stresses "Symmetry"

"Mr. COCKRELL. Neither do I like to encourage holidays on Sunday; but if there is to be any symmetry in our holidays this one ought to be fixed on the first day of the month, just as we have the 4th of July, the 25th of December, the 30th of May, and so on for public holidays. However, I have no objection to letting it go; and I withdraw my amendment if there is any objection to it.

#### Original Bill Is Passed

"Mr. SHERMAN. We had better leave it the first Monday, as we now create the holiday. The 4th of July was created by a great event, and could not be changed.

"The VICE-PRESIDENT. The amendment proposed by the Senator from Missouri is withdrawn.

"The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed."

#### Laid on the Speaker's Table

The Kyle bill reached the House on June 23. Under the heading "Labor Day a Legal Holiday," the Congressional Record for that day said:

"The SPEAKER laid before the House the bill (S. 730) making Labor Day a legal holiday.

"Mr. McGANN. Mr. Speaker, I ask consent that the bill lie on the Speaker's table for the present.

"There was no objection, and it was so ordered."

#### Passed House Without Discussion

The next step in the process of enacting the bill into law took place in the House on June 26. The Cummings Labor Day bill was already on the House Calendar, where it would not probably be reached for a number of weeks. Mr. McGann, chairman of the House Labor Committee, therefore decided to place the Kyle bill, which had the same text as the Cummings bill, before the House, the effect of which was to substitute the Kyle bill for the Cummings bill. Under the heading "Labor Day a Legal Holiday," the Congressional Record for June 26 printed the following succinct account of the procedure:

"The Speaker laid before the House the bill (S. 730) making Labor Day a legal holiday.

"Mr. McGANN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the present consideration of the bill.

"The SPEAKER. The bill will be read, after which the Chair will ask for objections.

"The bill was read as follows:

> **"'Be it enacted, etc., That the first Monday in September of each year, being the day known and celebrated as labor's holiday, is hereby made a legal public holiday, to all intents and purposes, in the same manner as Christmas, the 1st day of January, the 22d of February, the 30th of May and the 4th day of July are now by law made public holidays.'**

"There being no objection, the bill was considered, ordered to a third reading; and being read the third time, was passed.

"On motion of Mr. McGANN, a motion to reconsider the last vote was laid upon the table."

#### Speaker Crisp Signs Bill

Passed by both Houses of Congress, there were still three steps to be taken before the Labor Day bill became a part of the Federal Statutes. It must be signed by Speaker Crisp, Vice-President Stevenson, and President Cleveland.

The first step was recorded in the Congressional Record for June 27. Under the heading "Enrolled Bill Signed," the House proceedings said:

"Mr. PEARSON, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported that they had examined and found truly enrolled the bill (S. 730) making Labor Day a legal holiday; when the Speaker signed the same.

#### Vice-President Stevenson Affixes Signature

The Senate proceedings for the same day under the heading "Enrolled Bill Signed," reported:

"A message from the House of Representatives by Mr. T. O. TOWLES, its chief clerk, announced that the Speaker of the House of Representatives had signed the enrolled bill (S. 730) making Labor Day a legal holiday; and it was thereupon signed by the Vice-President."

#### President Cleveland Approves Measure

On June 28, 1894, under the heading "Presidential Approval" the Congressional Record in the Senate proceedings said:

"A message from the President of the United States, by Mr. O. L. PRUDEN, one of his secretaries, announced that the President on the 28th instant approved and signed the act (S. 730) making Labor Day a legal holiday."

And thus, twelve years after P. J. McGuire suggested to the Central Labor Union of New York City that one day in the year, the first Monday in September, should be set aside as a special holiday for working men and women of the United States, and ten years after the proposal was adopted by the American Federation of Labor, Congress enacted and President Cleveland signed the Kyle-Cummings bill "making Labor Day a legal public holiday."

#### Gompers Announces Victory

In his report to the 1894 convention of the American Federation of Labor, President Samuel Gompers made the following statement regarding the enactment of the Labor Day bill:

> **"National Labor Day.—It affords me pleasure to be able to report that the demand made by the American Federation of Labor for making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday passed Congress and was made a law on June 28, 1894."**

# 48 States Have Labor Day Laws

### Oregon Enacted First State Labor Day Law in 1887, with Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York Following in Quick Succession.

### Every State in the Union, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Philippine Islands Recognize Labor Day by Statute.

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

Labor Day as a general holiday was started on its way by the Central Labor Union of New York City on May 8, 1882, when the Council adopted the idea, presented by P. J. McGuire, founder of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, that one day of the year should be set aside as a special holiday for working men and women.

The Central Labor Union held the first Labor Day celebration in the United States on the first Monday in September, 1882, after which many municipal councils passed ordinances making the first Monday in September a municipal holiday.

#### Oregon Enacted First Law

It was not, however, until 1887 that the States began to fall in line and pass laws making Labor Day a legal State holiday.

The first State law was enacted by Oregon in 1887; the legislature designated the first Saturday in June as Labor Day, but in September, 1893, changed the date to the first Monday in September. The legislatures of Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York followed in quick succession, all of them enacting Labor Day laws in 1887. Wyoming was the forty-eighth State to come under the Labor Day influence, the legislature enacting a Labor Day law in 1923.

#### Dates When State Labor Day Laws Were Passed

Following is the list of States, compiled from data in the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, recognizing Labor Day as a holiday, with the date of the enactment of the law:

Alabama—December 12, 1892.

Alaska—March 28, 1913.

Arizona—April 29, 1912.

Arkansas—January 29, 1903.

California—February 23, 1897. Under the original law of California of May 23, 1893, Labor Day fell on the first Monday in October.

Colorado—March 15, 1887.

Connecticut—March 20, 1889.

Delaware—February 14, 1893.

District of Columbia—June 28, 1894.

Florida—April 29, 1893.

Georgia—October 16, 1891.

Hawaii—1903.

Idaho—March 5, 1909.

Illinois—June 17, 1891.

Indiana—March 9, 1891.

Iowa—April 5, 1890.

Kansas—March 4, 1891.

Kentucky—March 17, 1902.

Louisiana—July 8, 1912. The law enacted July 7, 1892, affected Parish of New Orleans only.

Maine—February 10, 1891.

Maryland—March 23, 1910.

Massachusetts—May 11, 1887.

Michigan—May 12, 1893.

Minnesota—April 18, 1893.

Mississippi—March 4, 1904.

Missouri—April 9, 1895.

Montana—February 19, 1895.

Nebraska—March 29, 1889.

Nevada—March 11, 1913.

New Hampshire—March 31, 1891.

New Jersey—April 8, 1887.

New Mexico—March 15, 1915.

New York—May 6, 1887.

North Carolina—January 23, 1901.

North Dakota—March 13, 1909.

Ohio—April 28, 1890.

Oklahoma—May 23, 1908.

Oregon—February 21, 1893. Under the original law of Oregon of February 21, 1887, Labor Day fell on the first Saturday in June.

Pennsylvania—April 25, 1889. In Pennsylvania by an act of May 31, 1893, the date of Labor Day was changed to the first Saturday in September, but by an act of June 23, 1897, the original date was restored.

Philippine Islands—April 30, 1908. May 1 is observed as Labor Day in the Philippine Islands.

Puerto Rico—1902.

Rhode Island—May 26, 1893.

South Carolina—December 22, 1891.

South Dakota—February 12, 1907.

Tennessee—March 11, 1891.

Texas—February 11, 1893.

Utah—February 23, 1892.

Vermont—November 26, 1898.

Virginia—February 5, 1892.

Washington—February 24, 1891.

West Virginia—February 21, 1899.

Wisconsin—April 19, 1893. Labor Day is set by governor.

Wyoming—February 8, 1923. Labor Day is set by governor.

# RIGHT OF WORKERS TO ORGANIZE REAFFIRMED BY CHURCH COUNCIL

### Labor Sunday Message Emphasizes Importance of Collective Bargaining to Secure Just Economic Conditions for Labor; Dictatorships Assailed as the Foe of Democracy, Which Is Held Essential for the Preservation of Fundamental Liberties.

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

New York, N. Y.—Strong reaffirmation of the absolute right of working men and women to organize in labor unions and bargain collectively with employers to secure high living standards through better wages, hours and work conditions is a leading feature in the Labor Sunday Message for 1938 issued here by the Executive Committee of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America through its Department of Church and Social Service. The Federal Council, composed of 23 Protestant denominations with a membership of about 22,000,000, requested that the Message be read in the churches on Labor Sunday, September 4, 1938, or on the first available Sunday thereafter.

Democracy was extolled in the Message as necessary for the protection and development of all fundamental liberties and dictatorships of every form condemned as destructive of the freedom which characterizes democratic procedure in all walks of life.

#### TEXT OF LABOR SUNDAY MESSAGE

Following is the text of the Labor Sunday Message:

"The recent World Conference of Churches at Oxford described our day as 'a time when mankind is oppressed with perplexity and fear. Men are burdened with evils almost insupportable and with problems apparently insoluble. Even in countries which are at peace, unemployment and malnutrition sap men's strength of body, mind, and spirit. In other countries war does its "devil's work," and threatens to overwhelm us all in its limitless catastrophe.'

"It is heartening in such a day that the Church is affirming the Word of God with new definiteness and courage, and that throughout the churches an increasing concern is felt about the problems of the social order, such as unemployment, the distribution of income, social security, the rights of labor, consumers' cooperation, and the relations of races and nations. It is heartening, too, that the churches are renewing their declarations that no human authority, not even the State, has a right to dictate to the conscience, since all authority is from God and the State also 'stands under His judgment.'

#### THE DUTY OF CHRISTIANS

"It is the duty of Christians not only to bear witness to their faith within the existing economic order, but also, as the Oxford Conference declared, 'to test all economic institutions in the light of their understanding of God's will' and contribute to 'the transformation, and if necessary, the thorough reconstruction of the present economic and political system.'

"In pursuing these ends, Christian men and women in the same occupations should meet together for prayerful discussion as to how in their particular sphere of life the problems which arise can be dealt with in accordance with the mind of Christ. In their membership in political parties, employers' associations, trade unions, farmers' organizations, consumers' cooperatives and other similar groups, Christians have an opportunity to make their influence felt in practical activities.

**"As citizens we should reaffirm our faith in democracy. For democracy alone guarantees the liberty of the human spirit and, by placing responsibility on the individual, promotes character and develops human personality. In the realm of industrial relations, the basic idea of democracy finds expression in the organization of labor for collective dealing with employers. For employers of the great mass of industrial workers today are no longer individuals, as were the employers of a century ago, but large companies or corporations. In such circumstances there can be no genuine negotiation unless it be collective negotiation; no genuinely free contract unless it be a collective contract. Labor, therefore, must be organized as a necessary factor in the extension of democratic processes in American life.**

"The responsible heads of some of our greatest industries, who have entered into collective bargaining relations with their employes, have exhibited industrial statesmanship. On the other hand, it is regrettable that some have used the misdeeds of labor organizations as an excuse for obscuring the major issue of democratic industrial relations. Labor, like the employer, must accept the obligations that go with the democratic process, taking care that the affairs of its own organizations are democratically and responsibly conducted.

"During industrial conflict, unethical and unjustifiable methods on the part of all parties too frequently prevail. In the public interest as well as their own, labor and employers should discontinue resorting to violence, racketeering, autocratic methods, internal dissension, refusal to participate in genuine collective bargaining, breaking of contracts, the use of industrial spies, and misleading propaganda. Organization and legislation alone will avail little if the right spirit be absent. The Church as a fellowship of the spirit dare never forget or cease to emphasize this fact.

#### RELIGIOUS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

**"Liberty is one and indivisible. We cannot have freedom in one sphere and deny it in another. In the world today the right of labor to have a voice in determining the conditions of its work, and the right of the Church to have a voice in determining the conditions of its worship, stand or fall together. Under dictatorships, whether of the Right or of the Left, it is not alone the freedom of labor to organize independently of the employer and of the State which has been denied, but also free speech, free press, freedom of assemblage, and freedom of worship.**

**"Concerned as we are for democracy, we must also be concerned for peace. For war is the enemy of democracy. If war should come, we would stand to lose in life and liberties all our hard-won gains. We must therefore unite in opposing increased armaments, conscription and industrial mobilization; in supporting all measures for removing the basic economic causes of war; and in building a cooperative world-order.**

"Ominous as is the condition of the world, we would conclude this message in the words of the Oxford World Conference of Churches: 'We are troubled yet we do not despair. Our hope is anchored in the living God. . . . In His Name we set our hands, as the servants of God and in Him of one another, to the task of proclaiming God's message of redemption, of living as His Children, and of combating injustice, cruelty and hate.'"

# Congressman Cummings Took Labor Day Law to White House in 1894

### Joint Author of Bill Making First Monday in September a National Holiday Presented Pen President Cleveland Used in Signing the Act to Samuel Gompers.

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

Amos J. Cummings of New York City was a member of the House of Representatives in 1894 when the bill making the first Monday in September of each year, "the day known and celebrated as labor's holiday," a "legal public holiday."

He had introduced in the House the Labor Day Bill already introduced in the Senate by Senator Kyle of South Dakota.

After the Cummings-Kyle bill was signed by President Cleveland, Representative Cummings wrote the following letter to Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor:

"Washington, D. C., June 29, 1894.

"Samuel Gompers, Esq., 14 Clinton Place, New York City.

"My dear Gompers—Yesterday I took the bill making Labor Day a National Holiday, which had been passed by both Houses of Congress, down to the President and he signed it. Thinking that you would like to have a memento of the passage of a law elevating labor, which will probably remain on the statute books as long as the Republic lasts, I send you the pen and holder which the President used in signing the bill.

"Yours sincerely,
"AMOS J. CUMMINGS."

President Gompers sent the following reply:

"New York, July 3, 1894.

"Hon. Amos J. Cummings, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

"Dear Sir and Friend: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 29th, informing me that you took the Bill making Labor Day a national holiday to the President, that he signed it, and that you sent me the pen and pen-holder which the President used in signing the Bill.

"I also received the pen and holder, and assure you that I esteem it, not only as a valuable souvenir in connection with the passage of the law, but also as a high compliment expressive of your attitude towards the great movement for the elevation of labor.

"Very truly yours,
"SAMUEL GOMPERS,
"President, American Federation of Labor."

# CONVENTION IS CALLED BY METAL TRADES DEPT.

### Delegates Will Meet in Houston, Texas, September 26.

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

Washington, D. C.—The thirtieth annual convention of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor will convene at the Rice Hotel, Houston, Texas, September 26, 1938, and continue in session until the business of the convention is completed, according to the convention call issued here by John P. Frey, president, W. A. Calvin, secretary-treasurer, and the six vice presidents of the Department.

"Representation in the convention," the call said, "shall be on the following basis: From national or international unions of less than 4,000 members, one delegate; 4,000 or more, two delegates; 8,000 or more, three delegates; 16,000 or more, four delegates; 32,000 or more, five delegates, and so on, who shall be entitled to one vote each for each 100 members or majority fraction thereof, and one delegate from each Local, and District Metal Trades Council, who shall be entitled to one vote."

With regard to qualifications for representation, the call contained the following notice:

"No organization that has seceded or been expelled or suspended by this Department, the American Federation of Labor, or by any National or International Organization connected therewith, shall, while under penalty, be allowed representation or recognition in this organization, or in any local Metal Trades Council under penalty of suspension of the body violating this section."

# SCRIP PLANNED TO PAY STRIKING RAILWAY MEN

Chicago, Ill. (AFLWNS).—The payment of part of wages in scrip has been proposed as a method of settling the strike of the employes of the Chicago, North Shore & Milwaukee Railroad. Harry E. Scheck, Federal labor conciliator, announced that the plan had been approved by Reconstruction Finance Corporation officials in Washington. Under the proposal 85 per cent of salaries would be paid in cash and 15 per cent in receiver's certificates for 90 days. It was stated that RFC approval was necessary because the Government agency had lent the railroad management $2,000,000.

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR WAS ESTABLISHED 57 YEARS AGO

### Convention Held in Pittsburgh in 1881 Was Attended By 107 Delegates; Program Adopted Called For a United Trade Union Movement and Proclaimed the Fundamental Principle of "A Shorter Work Day and Better Pay."

*By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.*

The American Federation of Labor was founded at a convention called by trade union leaders which opened in Pittsburgh, Pa., on November 15, 1881.

The call for the convention, which followed a preliminary convention held at Terre Haute, Ind., earlier in the year, carried the heading "International Trades Union Congress," and was addressed "To All Trades and Labor Unions of the United States and Canada."

Following is the text of the call:

"Fellow Workingmen: The time has now arrived for a more perfect combination of Labor—one that will concentrate our forces so as to more successfully cope with concentrated capital.

"We have numberless trades unions, trades assemblies or councils, and various other local, national and international labor unions, all engaged in the noble task of elevating and improving the condition of the working classes. But, great as has been the work done by these bodies, there is vastly more that can be done by a combination of all these organizations in a federation of trades.

"In Great Britain and Ireland annual trades union congresses are held: France and other countries have, also, similar gatherings. The work done by these assemblages of workmen speaks more in their favor than a volume of other arguments.

"Only in such a body can proper action be taken to promote the general welfare of the industrial classes. There we can discuss and examine all questions affecting the national interests of each and every trade, and by a combination of forces secure that justice which isolated and separated trade and labor unions can never fully command.

"A National Trades Union Congress can prepare labor measures and agree upon laws they desire passed by the Congress of the United States; and a Congressional Labor Committee, after the manner of the Parliamentary Committees of Trades Unions in England, could be elected to urge and advance legislation at Washington on all such measures, and report to the various trades.

"In addition to this, an annual congress of trades unions could organize a systematic agitation to propagate trades union principles, and to impress the necessity of protective trade and labor organizations, and to encourage the formation of such unions and their amalgamation in trades assemblies. Thus we could elevate trades unionism and obtain for the working classes that respect for their rights, and that reward for their services, to which they are justly entitled.

"A federation of this character can be organized with a few simple rules and no salaried officers. The expenses of its management will be trivial and can be provided for by the Trades Union Congress.

"Impressed with the necessity of such a federation, and the importance of an International Trades Union Congress, to perfect the organization, we the undersigned, delegates, in a preliminary national convention, assembled at Terre Haute, Indiana, held August 2, 1881, do hereby resolve to issue the following call:

"That all international and national unions, trades assemblies or councils, and local trades or labor unions are hereby invited to send delegates to an International Trades Union Congress, to be held in Pittsburg, Pa., on Tuesday, November 15, 1881. Each local union will be entitled to one delegate for one hundred members or less, and one additional delegate for each additional five hundred members or major part thereof; also, one delegate for each international or national union, and one delegate for each trades assembly or council."

#### Union Leaders Who Signed the Call

The call was signed by J. E. Coughlin, President, National Tanners and Curriers' Union; Richard E. Powers, General President, Lake Seamen's Union; Lyman A. Brant, International Typographical Union; P. J. McGuire, St. Louis Trades and Labor Assembly; T. Thompson, Iron Molders' Union, Dayton, Ohio; George W. Osborn, Iron Molders' Union, Springfield, Ohio; W. E. Pollner, Cleveland Trades Assembly; Samuel L. Leffingwell, Indianapolis Trades Assembly, and J. R. Backus, Terre Haute Amalgamated Labor Union.

The following persons were also recorded as endorsing the call:

George Clark, President, International Typographical Union; P. F. Fitzpatrick, President, Iron Molders' Union of America; John Kinnear, President, Central Trades and Labor Assembly, Boston, Mass., and George Rodgers, President, Chicago Trades Assembly.

#### Legislative Committee Formed

There were 107 delegates at the Pittsburgh convention, representing 262,000 working men. The convention formed a permanent organization named the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions of the United States of America and Canada.

A legislative committee was formed, consisting of Richard Powers, of the Seamen's Union, of Chicago; William H. Foster, of the International Typographical Union, of Cincinnati; Samuel Gompers, of the International Cigar Makers' Union of New York; C. F. Burgman, of the Tailors' International Union, of San Francisco, and A. C. Rankin, of the Knights of Labor Iron Molders' of Pittsburgh.

#### Declaration of Principles Called For Labor Unity

The convention, which lasted four days, set forth the views of the delegates in a "Declaration of Principles," the preamble of which declared:

"A struggle is going on in the nations of the civilized world between the oppressors and the oppressed of all countries, a struggle between capital and labor, which must grow in intensity from year to year and work disastrous results to the toiling millions of all nations if not combined for mutual protection and benefit.

"The history of the wage workers of all countries is but the history of constant struggle and misery engendered by ignorance and disunion.

"The history of the non-producers of all ages proves that a minority, thoroughly organized, may work wonders for good or evil.

"It behooves the representatives of the workers of North America, in Congress assembled, to adopt such measures and disseminate such principles among the people of our country as will unite them for all time to come, to secure the recognition of the rights to which they are justly entitled.

"Conforming to the old adage, 'In union there is strength,' the formation of a Federation embracing every trade and labor organization in North America, a union founded upon a basis as broad as the land we live in, is our only hope.

"The past history of Trades Unions proves that small organizations, well conducted, have accomplished great good, but their efforts have not been of that lasting character which a thorough unification of all the different branches of industrial workers is bound to secure."

#### Membership Qualifications

The constitution of the new organization provided that the Federation "shall consist of such trades and labor unions as shall, after being duly admitted, conform to its rules and regulations, and pay all contributions required to carry out the objects of this Federation." It was explained that this was made Article I of the constitution "because it would keep out of the Federation political bodies which might try to force themselves into future deliberations."

#### Legislation Favored by Convention

To achieve the principles set forth in the preamble the convention adopted a platform favoring the compulsory education of children, the abolition of child labor, the passage of uniform apprentice laws, the enforcement of the eight-hour rule, the restriction of contract prison labor, and the abandonment of the store-order system.

It also advocated a first lien for labor done, the repeal of the conspiracy laws against organized labor, the establishment of a bureau of labor statistics, the continuance of the protective tariff for American Industry, the enactment of a national law to prevent the importation of foreign labor under contract, and urged that organized labor should have representation in all lawmaking bodies, in order to secure beneficial legislation.

#### "A Shorter Work Day and Better Pay"

Supplementary resolutions were also passed setting forth the necessity of legislation securing restrictions to Chinese labor, the licensing of stationary engineers, governmental inspection of factories and workshops, the sanitary supervision of food and wells, and an employers' liability law.

The general principles adopted by the convention were: "A shorter work day and better pay," "We recognize neither creed, color or nationality," and "All working men, whether mechanics or laborers, are eligible to membership."

#### Dissolved in 1886

The Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions of the United States of America and Canada lasted until December 10, 1886, when, at the conclusion of a four-day meeting held in Columbus, Ohio, the Federation dissolved with the recommendation that all affiliated unions connect themselves with the American Federation of Labor, which had been established on December 9 by a "Convention of Trades Unions," also held in Columbus, December 8 to 12.

The action of the two groups amalgamated in the American Federation of Labor twenty-five national organizations with an aggregate membership of 316,469 workers.

Samuel Gompers was elected president of the A. F. of L., and P. J. McGuire was elected secretary.

# DISTILLING FIRM SIGNS A. F. OF L. AGREEMENT

(Continued from Page 1)

shop agreement, in that it is provided "Only members of Distillery Workers' Union No. 20418 shall be employed in the various departments set forth . . . . except departments covered by other American Federation of Labor contracts."

Departments covered include: Dryhouse, maintenance, stillhouse and wineroom, cooker room, yeast room, fermenting room, meal men and cleaner men and grain unloaders, millers, yard, bottling, electricians, painters, janitors, coopers, warehouse.

Under the contract the Corporation agrees not to discriminate against any member of Distillery Workers' Union No. 20418, or to lay off or discharge any employee because of his union activities. Weekly pay-days are also provided.

#### Strikes and Lockouts Banned

The contract sets up machinery for the peaceful adjustment of such grievances as may arise between employer and workers, in consequence of which it is mutually agreed there will be no strike or lockout during the life of the agreement.

What is also regarded as a significant clause in the agreement provides that it "shall remain in effect perpetually unless sixty days' notice in writing is given prior to July 1 of each year by either or both parties. Such written notice shall contain any changes or amendments desired and only such changes or amendments as are contained in such notice will be discussed by the conferences."

# OIL PRODUCTION CURB IN TEXAS IS ORDERED

Austin, Texas (AFLWNS).—Determined to prevent an oversupply of oil and the consequent slump in prices, the Texas Railroad Commission issued an order closing Texas oilfields on Saturday and Sunday through September. Maximum output on the basis of a seven-day week results in operators glutting the market so that prices are reduced far below the figures required for a reasonable profit. Consequently along comes the State with a drastic order "interfering" with the oil producing business.

## Green Says A. F. of L. Stands Firm For Democracy and Equal Opportunity

(Continued from Page 1)

opportunity. As we build and mount, we fit ourselves for wider opportunities. The American Federation of Labor believes that American labor can promote its own welfare within American institutions—and that progress for Labor is inseparable from progress for all.

### COMMUNISM FIRMLY OPPOSED

We have stood solidly against the principles and practices of Communism. Such unions as tolerated Communists or their sympathizers have found unity of action impossible and their organizations torn asunder. As to the wisdom of our decision, even though opposed by some liberals and radical opportunists, we have only to point to the terrible purge that has already cost two million lives in Russia. No group within a Nation can permanently impose its will on other groups.

### WAGE REDUCTIONS PREVENTED

During the past year we have added to our union ranks and have extended and strengthened the practice of collective bargaining and as a result have been able to defeat many proposed wage cuts. We have contributed to understanding of the fact that wages are both pay for work and approximately 80 per cent of consuming power upon which industries depend for sale of products and services. There is now more conscience and hesitation on the part of employers in proposing wage cuts matched by intelligent resistance on the part of unions. The result has been a steadying force in business activity.

### UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION EXTENDED

In the past year unemployment compensation laws have gone into effect in more than half our States and will be in effect in all but two with the beginning of next year. The purpose of unemployment compensation is to provide economic security for those employable workers who have lost their jobs. Even though the laws are not yet perfect or their administration satisfactory, the big thing is the establishment of the principle that workers losing jobs still have a right to income.

### MINIMUM WAGE AND MAXIMUM HOUR STANDARDS FIXED

Another big forward step of the past year is social legislation fixing a wage minimum below which competition may not force workers to work in industries under Federal jurisdiction and establishing maximum hours beyond which overtime is enforced. These two measures raised the economic level of all our living and provide a new sense of security for those whose incomes depend upon keeping their jobs.

### PROBLEM OF LABOR LAW ADMINISTRATION

However, these new laws, together with the National Labor Relations Act, public contracts, as well as the more familiar laws, bring us to the serious problem of getting understanding and practical administrators. Labor experience is necessary for the administration of labor law.

### IMPORTANCE OF LABOR UNITY

The problems of the coming year challenge Labor's ability in organization and securing representation for its views and experience in the administrative work of the Government.

The situation calls for a rededication to the cause of unionism and for unifying our labor movement. Our national life is a unity and Labor cannot divide its forces without loss to itself and the cause of human welfare.

Let us determine to forge a new unity during the year, sweep aside all disruption, and take advantage of the opportunities which we can turn into strength for the cause of unionism and higher standards of living for all.

## A. F. of L. Non-Partisan Political Policy Will Continue, Green Declares

(Continued from Page 1)

Carolina, Guy M. Gillette of Iowa, Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky, Claude Pepper of Florida, were approved by the A. F. of L. and were renominated in the primaries.

Mr. Green mentioned four contests involving seats in the House of Representatives in which the American Federation of Labor opposed the Committee for Organization and won. These were the re-nomination of Representatives Hatton W. Sumners and Martin Dies in Texas, the defeat of Representative Maury Maverick in the same State and the re-nomination of Representative Robert Doughton in North Carolina.

He also referred to the primary contest in Pennsylvania where the A. F. of L. assisted in the defeat of Lieut. Gov. Thomas J. Kennedy, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers, an affiliate of the C. I. O., in his effort to win the nomination for Governor by the Democratic party.

The American Federation of Labor is also supporting Representative David J. Lewis of Maryland who is seeking the nomination for the U. S. Senate in opposition to Senator Millard Tydings, Senator Alva B. Adams of Colorado and Senator Pat McCarran of Nevada.

### A. F. of L. Policy vs. C. I. O. Set-Up

The political aims of the Committee for Industrial Organization are so thoroughly resented by large sections of the population that many candidates for national office claim they were helped by C. I. O. opposition, Mr. Green said.

In contrasting the policies of the American Federation of Labor and the C. I. O. in the political field, Mr. Green made this declaration:

"We do not attempt to formulate political policies in Congress. Our interest is confined to questions of economic and labor policies. No officer of the American Federation of Labor is aspiring to office, political leadership or position. That is where we differ with the political set-up of the C. I. O. That organization is designedly supporting an independent political party."

### Independent Labor Party Opposed

With regard to an independent labor party Mr. Green said he was thoroughly convinced that the nation was not yet ready for such an organization. Until the interests of farmers become identified with those of industrial workers, he added, such a party can only succeed in "isolating labor's strength."

### Non-Partisan Policy Explained

"The pursuit of a non-partisan policy," Mr. Green continued, "means that labor's strength can be used as a balance of power and a deciding factor in elections. Legislators listen with respect to what we have to say so long as they fear the exercise of our political power under the two-party form of Government to which this country is wedded. If they believe us a minority group with our own party, they can afford to ignore us."

## Importance of Complete Freedom For Labor Stressed by Rosemund

(Continued from Page 1)

the central theme of free utterances by free men who knew their rights and insisted upon exercising them. Freedom both from the oppressive employer and from antagonistic Government agencies was constantly emphasized on all occasions.

To be free—free to organize, free to bargain collectively, free to determine through negotiations the conditions under which free men should live and labor, was and is the mainspring of all trade union activity. This principle—this ideal of freedom—has never been departed from by those who understand and believe in the American Federation of Labor.

### Workers Freedom Menaced by Legislation Regulating Business

Nevertheless here and there like a voice in the wilderness there is an occasional whisper expressing apprehension and alarm over developments of the past several years. As if an invisible, unheralded pressure were slowly but insidiously intruding and trespassing upon the freedom of the worker. This is happening both directly and by indirection.

As far as business and enterprise are concerned, the many acts on National and State legislative books have considerably circumscribed their freedom of action. Viewed as a whole and from a social standpoint, all of these acts have much to commend them and the passage of such legislation has invariably been supported by organized labor.

There can be no business or enterprise without labor, but organized labor, when it seeks the enactment of such regulatory statutes, must never lose sight of the fact that the hobbles that may thus be placed on so-called "free enterprise" may also become a ball and chain to be fastened to labor.

### Oligarchical Administration of Labor Laws

Then, of course, there have been enacted laws having a direct relationship to labor, all of which, in turn, have received the blessing of organized labor and have had its support in finally securing enactment.

The Norris-LaGuardia Act, the unemployment insurance laws, compensation insurance laws, the National Labor Relations Act, Social Security and the Fair Labor Standards Act, all by their names indicate their beneficent intent. But many of those who were enthusiastic in the promotion and support of these measures are astounded at the oligarchical bureaucracies which, in many instances, have accompanied these measures.

In one particular instance the American Federation of Labor has become amazed and greatly disturbed at the manner of applying a law which that organization, more than any other agency, promoted. For they see that the very agency for whose creation they were responsible is now actually engaged in practices which eventually may cripple or even destroy its creator.

### Government Bureaucracy Injures Labor's Rights

So there is a pause on the part of many of those active in the A. F. of L. They are becoming hesitant about the reliance that can be placed in statutory protection. Well may they view the situation in this light when they see the freedom and rights which they insisted upon enjoying under the most adverse circumstances of former days arbitrarily set aside and nullified by an untouchable bureaucracy.

### Political Stultification of Labor Movement Feared

Even while the American Federation of Labor realizes that the complexities of modern life impose certain requirements in order that organized society may function, let them be eternally on their guard that while subscribing to this noble purpose, at the same time they jealously safeguard those rights that make them free men. To do otherwise will ultimately result in the creation of a statutory Frankenstein which would reduce the organization of free workers, as exemplified by the American Federation of Labor, to a governmental appendage subject to the whim and caprice of a dominant political party—a completely stultified labor movement comparable to those in many of the nations of Europe today.

## A. F. of L. Council Backs Dies Inquiry

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"Merely shouting liar, renegade or traitor is no answer."

Pointing out that the historic policy of the American Federation of Labor had been to bar Communists from its organizing staff and from representation in central and state bodies, Mr. Green indicated that the question of Communist officials in C. I. O. unions would be a problem in any formula for settling the controversy of the American Federation of Labor with the Committee for Industrial Organization.

The resolution adopted by the Executive Council expressing its support of the investigation was intended to block efforts by C. I. O. leaders and others to minimize the work of the Dies Committee and to represent it as an enemy, rather than a friend, of democracy, Mr. Green said.

### C. I. O. Refused to Answer Frey's Charges

It was significant, he added, that C. I. O. representatives have refused to answer the charges against them made by John P. Frey, president of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, in his testimony before the House Committee. Mr. Frey stated that according to his information the rank and file of the C. I. O. was opposed to Communism, but that Communists and their supporters filled important positions in many C. I. O. unions and controlled their actions and policies.

### Communism, Nazism and Fascism Oppose Labor

Mr. Green classified Nazism, Fascism and Communism as equally hostile to the interests of labor, but said he would not favor depriving adherence of these philosophies of their right to vote. The best defense of democracy, he declared, lay in exposing the fallacies of dictatorial rule.

He said the evidence thus far heard by the Dies Committee indicated that un-American activities in the United States had their inspiration "in Moscow and also in the high councils of the Fascist and Nazi movement in Berlin and Rome."

### Executive Council's Statement

The resolution adopted by the Executive Council supporting the work of the Dies Committee said:

"The Executive Council views this inquiry and the service thus far rendered of extreme importance in bringing to light the treacherous propaganda and nefarious activities engaged in by those who would suppress our liberties, destroy our democratic institutions and substitute therefor the autocratic and repressive principles and practices that characterize the totalitarian governments abroad."

"The evidence thus far presented indicates clearly that, under guise of freedom and democracy, these subversive movements would subjugate, control and dominate our free trade unions; mislead our religious institutions; direct our welfare societies; shape our educational institutions and invade every other form of group activities to the end that these democratic institutions and forces may be used to promote some form of autocratic 'ism' from abroad.

"It is the hope of the Executive Council that the Dies committee will carry on its work diligently and fearlessly until the full dangers surrounding our democratic institutions may be fully and clearly presented to the American people.

"Let the chips fall where they may."

## MISS PERKINS LISTS GAINS FOR WORKERS

(Continued from Page 1)

that the weekly pay envelopes of factory workers contained over $60,000,000 more in July, 1938, than in March, 1933.

The text of Miss Perkins's Labor Day Message follows:

### Improved Working Conditions

Wage earners of the United States can celebrate Labor Day with assurance that their welfare will be promoted, their working conditions improved and their opportunities for profitable employment advanced as a result of passage of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Social Security Act and the National Labor Relations Act, three outstanding laws enacted since March, 1933.

### Big Jump in Factory Wages

Marked economic gains have been made which have benefited not only workers but employers and investors as well in the last five and a half years. Weekly factory pay rolls rose from $77,083,000 in March, 1933, to $137,162,000 in July, 1938 a gain of $60,079,000 and in the same period there was an advance in nonagricultural employment from 25,946,000 to 31,769,000, a rise of 5,823,000. Building construction went up from $24,100,000 in March, 1933, to $182,900,000 in July, 1938, an increase of $158,800,000.

Such advances as these have been in the interest of the well being of all Americans. They have been accompanied by a feeling of greater security for the future on the part of the worker and his family, thanks to the legislation designed to protect that great mass of our people from economic vicissitudes.

### Benefits of Fair Labor Standards Act

Passage of the Fair Labor Standards Act, since the observance of Labor Day 1937, should be a source of satisfaction to wage earners and employers all over the country. Putting a floor under wages, a ceiling over hours of work and ending child labor in industries engaged in interstate commerce, it will be the means of increasing the purchasing power of millions of workers in the years to come. This in turn will benefit employers, investors and farmers. The Act will also serve as a protection to that great majority of employers who want to maintain decent standards but have been at the mercy of price-cutting competitors in the past.

### Importance of Labor Department Stressed

It is a pleasure to report such progress to the workers of America upon the day which is so much theirs and to assure them that the United States Department of Labor, established by the Congress to foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners of the United States, to improve their working conditions and to advance their opportunities for profitable employment, will continue to fulfill its duty in their interest and in that of the Nation.

## Probe of Terrorism by C. I. O. Mine Workers Demanded by the A. F. of L.

(Continued from Page 1)

authorities, have been permitted to mete out severe punishment to any worker who dared to resist."

Mr. Green said the Executive Council listened to Mr. Ozanic's charges with "surprise and amazement" and unanimously voted to take immediate action to secure a complete investigation by a special Congressional committee.

### Violence and Intimidation in West Virginia

With regard to violence and intimidation, especially in West Virginia, to smash the organization work of the Progressive Miners, Mr. Ozanic told the Executive Council that when the A. F. of L. group announced the inception of an organizing drive at Eskdale, W. Va., on June 12, Mr. Ozanic's brother-in-law, Louis Karlovic, was assaulted by two men, who told arresting officers later that they had been hired to "give Ozanic the works" and had made a mistake in identity. The assailants were fined $10 each.

An attempt to hold a mass meeting was made that night, Mr. Ozanic said, but a crowd of 2,000, armed with stones, bottles and guns, forced the A. F. of L. leaders to take refuge in miners' homes until the police arrived. Mr. Ozanic quoted a district vice president of the U. M. W. as having congratulated the crowd for breaking up the meeting.

"Shortly after this incident we were advised by State officials not to try to hold any public mass meetings in West Virginia," Mr. Ozanic added. "We have been unable to obtain assurances of police protection. Unless drastic action is taken to curb lawlessness incited by officials of the U. M. W. it may be impossible to hold a peaceful meeting in the State."

### Progressive Miners Boost Membership to 45,000

The Executive Council was informed by Mr. Ozanic that despite the connivance of public officials and the coal operators with the C. I. O. United Mine Workers Union, the Progressive Miners of America has increased its membership to 45,000 in the coal fields of Illinois, Kentucky and other States. Many of these members, he said, had withdrawn from the U. M. W. in protest against Mr. Lewis' leadership.

### Lewis' Check-Off Dictatorship Exposed

Their opposition to Mr. Lewis was caused in large part, he declared, by the expenditure of dues and special assessments taken out of their pay through the check-off system for purposes not directly related to the miners' welfare. Lewis' check-off system, according to Mr. Ozanic, is worked as follows:

"Any time John L. Lewis wants any sum of money with which to enforce his dictatorial policies, to carry on the C. I. O. or to advance his political ambitions, all he has to do under his present set-up is to notify the coal operators in all twenty-three U. M. W. districts to deduct a special assessment from the pay envelopes of these coal miners. No miner is given an opportunity to vote on these assessments or on the purpose to which they are put."

Mr. Ozanic said two assessments of this kind had been levied last February and March to provide funds for the unsuccessful campaign of the Committee for Industrial Organization to win the Democratic primaries in Pennsylvania for Lieut. Gov. Thomas J. Kennedy, secretary-treasurer of the U. M. W., as Governor and for Mayor S. Davis Wilson of Philadelphia as U. S. Senator.

The constitution of the Progressive Miners of America, Mr. Ozanic pointed out, forbids the collection of assessments unless approved by referendum and gives local unions direct administrative control over money received through the check-off.

## Butler Lauds Winant for Chief Of International Labor Office

(Continued from Page 1)

ternational Labor Conference, and were heartened by the news of the ratification of five Maritime Conventions by the United States. But the clearest proof of the big part which the United States is now playing in our world-wide Organization is the appointment of an American, John G. Winant, as the new Director of the International Labor Office. Mr. Winant will succeed me when I leave at the end of the year. No one could ask for a better successor, and I am glad to think that he will take office at a time when the prestige and standing of the International Labor Organization were never higher.

Among the many regrets which I feel at leaving the Office, none is keener than the loss of official contacts with American Labor, at whose hands I have received so much help, hospitality and friendliness. I am hoping, however, not to lose touch with the United States, or with my many friends in the Labor ranks there, while in the new job which I am taking up in England.

## Ornburn Cites Progress in Enlarging Market for Union Goods and Services

(Continued from Page 1)

higher wages, shorter hours and better working conditions.

I desire to take this opportunity to thank publicly these unionized industrialists who so heartily cooperated in making our first great Exhibition a success.

### Women's Influence for Union Standards

In expressing our appreciation for this unparalleled achievement in the history of any label movement I thank the representatives of the most unified purchasing market in the world—the American Federation of Women's Auxiliaries of Labor—for their cooperation.

At last the women members of Labor Unionists' families play a vital part in obtaining higher wages, shorter hours, and better working conditions for American Labor. The wives, mothers, sisters, daughters, and friends of organized workers have, in **collective buying**, a weapon which is as effective as the **collective bargaining** of Labor Unions. Individually, each woman can do her part by spending Union-earned money only for Union Label goods and services. But, collectively, the economic effect and psychological influence will be more powerfully felt if these women join their new organization—the American Federation of Women's Auxiliaries of Labor.

### Success of Union Label and Industrial Exhibition

Greatest of all the results of the A. F. of L. Union Label and Industrial Exhibition was the psychological effect upon the twenty-five million Union Label-conscious consumers throughout the United States, with an annual purchasing power of over six billion Union-earned and American dollars.

The A. F. of L. Union Label and Industrial Exhibition having proved such a success, the Union Label Trades Department is planning to make it an annual event. This aggressive program has been launched to deliver the valuable Union Market to the manufacturers of Union-made goods and to other business institutions whose services are unionized.

### Buy Union Made Goods for Prosperity

We are convinced beyond question that permanent prosperity cannot return until the American purchasing market is raised and strengthened by the purchasing of Union-made goods and Union services. To achieve its purpose, the Union Label Trades Department is not only publicizing Union Labels, Shop Cards and Buttons, but is endeavoring to familiarize the Union Label-conscious market with lists of Unionized manufacturers and with the brand and trade names used by firms recognizing the principle of collective bargaining with Labor Unions.

The A. F. of L. Union Label and Industrial Exhibition is just one of the activities to increase the demand for Union-made goods and Union services. We emphasize the Exhibition, because it was in connection with it that the first Union Label Catalogue-Directory was published.

### Achievements of Union Label Weeks

Among the various other activities carried on by the Union Label Trades Department are Union Label Weeks in various cities throughout America. Several Governors and Mayors have issued proclamations declaring that a six-day period be set aside for the sole purpose of promoting Union Label products and Union services. In connection with the Union Label Week, the Central Labor Unions, in cooperation with Union Label Leagues and Women's Auxiliaries, arrange for large parades, radio talks, streamers on automobiles, newspaper and window display advertising of Union Label merchandise, and demonstrations of Union services. Great interest is shown in these events and the results are proven by the many requests that our Department receives for Union Label literature.

### Importance of Buying Union-Label Goods

Labor Unionists are obligated to manufacturers who recognize bona fide Labor Unions. We cannot expect industry to accept collective bargaining agreements and then not buy the products that are made under Union conditions. We owe it to those "fair" concerns to cooperate in buying the merchandise upon which the Union Label is displayed. If members of Labor Unions, their families and friends will patronize only those firms that sell Union Label goods and employ Union services, we may confidently expect a steady growth for Labor Unions; but if we fail to reciprocate by consuming the union-made goods processed by our own friends, we will lose the high standards we established. We must **show results to Unionized industry.**

## ARCHITECTS NAMED FOR D. C. ALLEY HOUSING

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—The District of Columbia Alley Dwelling Authority has appointed four architects to draw plans for the $16,000,000 housing projects designed to provide dwellings at reasonable rentals for the low-income groups of workers now compelled to live in the so-called "alleys" of the nation's capital.

In other cities, the alleys would be called the slums. But in the District of Columbia the term "alley" has been used from time immemorial to describe the collection of very narrow streets, frequently without the accommodations of modern housing, where working men and women whom District of Columbia employers refuse to pay decent wages are compelled to live.

With the $15,000,000 which John Ihlder, director of the Alley Dwelling Authority, expects to secure from the United States Housing Authority it is believed that within a few years the altogether discreditable alley housing conditions in the District of Columbia will exist in memory only.

## AVERAGE PAY OF CLERKS RISES $1.12 PER WEEK

New York, N. Y. (AFLWNS).—According to a report made by the Merchants Association of New York on the basis of a survey finalized by its industrial bureau there was an average increase of 3.5 per cent in the salaries of 27,000 clerical employes of 207 corporations in the period between May, 1937, and May, 1938.

Employes included in the survey were accountants, auditors, machine and non-machine bookkeepers, male and female stenographers and secretaries, typists, dictaphone operators, telephone operators, office machine operators, chief and supervisory clerks, file clerks and all other office occupations.

The announcement said that average weekly salaries of employes included in the survey increased from $31.05 to $32.17, a rise of $1.12 per week. The employe group showing the greatest salary increase was the office accountants, whose average pay rose from $52.38 to $58.35, or 11.4 per cent.

The survey disclosed that the employes of railroad corporations realized the largest increase in average weekly salaries—9.2 per cent. Bank and trust company employes showed an increase of 7.5 per cent, while the increase recorded for employes of insurance companies was 3.2 per cent.

## Morrison Reports Gain of Over Million Dues-Paying Members in Two Years

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accomplishments require qualities in men and women that impel them to remain steadfast through a monotonous routine which builds up stamina and discipline necessary to establish a responsible union.

This is the type of membership that has made the American Federation of Labor the spearhead of the labor movement of this country; that made powerful corporations so apprehensive of its power to attract the membership of their employes that they surrounded the enforcement of restrictive labor policies with impressive legal talent and professional spy operations.

The leaders of the C. I. O. may express contempt for the American Federation of Labor and its leaders, but not so the great corporations and firms that held a stranglehold over the communities within which they operated.

Of recent memory are the brutalities of the coal and iron police in the steel and mining communities carrying on their activities with the legal blessing of the injunction judge, while political authorities either openly connived or passively stood by.

### RIGHT TO ORGANIZE GAINED

It is a long way from the medieval theory of labor and the application to individual workers of the right to join a union of their own choosing to improve conditions of labor. This way has been traversed by the American Federation of Labor within the period of its existence.

All through the years the American Federation of Labor has directed its efforts to secure the enactment of specific legislative regulations to prohibit unfair practices against workers in industry; the records of the United States Congress, state legislatures, county and city governments, give ample testimony of campaigns continuously waged by the Federation and prove that with the progress of its non-partisan campaigns in political elections the principles for which the American Federation of Labor stands have been reiterated time and again in legislative enactments.

The Norris-La Guardia Injunction Law, enacted in 1932, and the National Labor Relations Act, enacted in 1935, are the latest achievements to testify to the progress of the American Federation of Labor. Both of these measures, now federal statutes of the United States, impose upon law-making and law-enforcing bodies the duty to recognize and enforce the principle of the right of workers in industry to join unions of their own choosing.

### ADMINISTRATION OF LABOR RELATIONS ACT

The administration of the National Labor Relations Act is unsatisfactory. The American Federation of Labor sponsored this legislation not to force workers into a particular union or any union, but to permit them to exercise freely the right to join a union of their own choosing. The American Federation of Labor will continue its campaign with respect to the operation of this law until its administration conforms to the principles of freedom which should be applied under our form of government.

## COAL AGREEMENT VIOLATES WAGNER ACT, SAYS GREEN

(Continued from Page 1)

**in violation of law to recruit members and to break down resistance to his will has never been presented to the public."**

The A. F. of L. chief said this attempt to impose a dictatorship on coal mine workers would be challenged, and that the A. F. of L. would use all legal means to protect the rights granted coal miners by Congress "in accordance with the democratic principles upon which this country has built its present economic structure."

### TEXT OF GREEN'S STATEMENT

Following is the text of Mr. Green's statement:

"The press reports that the Harlan County, Ky., Coal Operators' Association has signed a closed shop contract with the United Mine Workers of America, covering from 12,000 to 15,000 employes.

"These are the operators who were prosecuted by the Federal Government for violation of the National Labor Relations Act for interfering with the United Mine Workers' union activities in recruiting members for that union. The prosecution resulted in disagreement by the jury and the defendants are now awaiting a second trial. These are the operators against whom the United Mine Workers Union has filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board alleging the same interference.

### Terms of the Deal

"The public is now informed that the operators and John L. Lewis have made a deal. This deal is with the approval of the National Labor Relations Board and provides:

"1. The employers are to have for the future terms of employment satisfactory to them and to the officials of the United Mine Workers.

"2. The United Mine Workers are to have the exclusive right to supply employes from the members of the U.M.W. who will be required to consent to the terms of employment.

"3. The present employes will have the alternative of either becoming members of the U.M.W. and thereby consenting to the terms of employment imposed upon such members or losing their jobs.

"4. Civil action against the employers is to be dropped and presumably criminal charges as well, as the Federal Government agencies are reported to be parties to this settlement.

### Plan Sets Up Lewis as Dictator

"This deal stated in these simple terms merely means that the employer has selected and chosen the union to which his workers must belong to keep their employment hereafter and the union for which the employer is soliciting members has agreed in advance to the terms of employment under which these employe members are to work.

"A clearer case of conspiracy to violate the National Labor Relations Act cannot be found. A more brazen and unlawful alliance to control workers without their knowledge and consent has yet to be disclosed. A more decisive instance of John L. Lewis using government machinery in violation of law to recruit members and to break down resistance to his will has never been presented to the public.

"The press reports that this arrangement is to be submitted for ratification tomorrow to the members of District No. 19 of the United Mine Workers of America and not to the employes of the mines covered by the arrangement who now are not members of the U.M.W. District No. 19 covers Kentucky and part of Tennessee including miners now out of work or who are working for other employers competitors or non-competitors of the Harlan County operators involved.

"Why they should be the persons chosen to approve this contract is clear. This approval is intended to have a double aspect. It is the window-trimming provided to make it appear that some working men, other than the officials have had a hand in making this contract. But the approval of this contract by these members has the same significance as if the contract had been submitted for the approval of the members of the U.M.W. in Pennsylvania, Washington or Colorado and no more. Their approval means nothing. It is a subterfuge whereby the bargaining unit is established for the future by those who have no right to do so and for the sole purpose of perpetuating control thereover by John L. Lewis, even though the employes of the Harlan County mines should rebel against his dictation.

"This incident is additional proof that John L. Lewis is using Federal Government agencies as recruiting agents for the United Mine Workers.

"This collusive action cannot stand unchallenged. The American working man must make up his mind that such a program if allowed to continue unchecked would substitute for the evils which have been outlawed by Congress a single union in which John L. Lewis would be the dictator and beneficiary. He will then bargain with employers who are given the alternative of bargaining with him alone or of being persecuted; he will then bargain for the working man upon terms and conditions advantageous to him as the dictator and to which terms and conditions the working man must submit or starve.

### A. F. of L. Will Protect Legal Rights of Workers

"The American Federation of Labor will not permit this situation to go unchallenged and will not desert the American working man. The American Federation of Labor will use every legal means and all of its resources to give to the employes an opportunity to exercise their rights granted to them by Congress in accordance with the democratic principles upon which this country has built its present economic structure.

### Progressive Mine Workers Fight Labor Despotism

"To provide the miners an opportunity to escape the fate of vassals under a labor despotism such as the Harlan County deal contemplates, the A. F. of L. has chartered the Progressive Mine Workers of America which operates on democratic principles as the true representative and choice of the miners who are members thereof. The Progressives will undertake a campaign to permit the employes of these Harlan County mines to indicate their choice of collective bargaining agents. From the data already available in our possession we believe that the miners will welcome the opportunity of having the Progressives as their collective bargaining agents."

## A. F. L. COMPLAINTS AGAINST LABOR BOARD GIVEN TO WAGNER

(Continued from Page 1)

William Green, president of the A. F. of L., said that Senator Wagner was requested to attend the Executive Council meeting because the A. F. of L. had "worked with him very closely in preparing the Labor Relations Act" and had gained from the conferences held then what was believed to be a perfectly clear understanding of both the letter and spirit of the Act.

### A. F. of L. Agreements Nullified

The cases considered by the Executive Council included Labor Board decisions showing that the administration of the Act with respect to the invalidation of A. F. of L. agreements was in violation of this original understanding when the law was in the channels of legislation.

Among them were the Consolidated Edison Company case in New York City and the National Electrical Products Company case in Ambridge, Pa. In both instances the Labor Board set aside agreements negotiated with the companies by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

"We emphasized," Mr. Green said, "the fact that the American Federation of Labor regards contracts entered into through collective bargaining between employers and employes as sacred and binding upon those who are parties thereto. We believe that contracts thus negotiated should be faithfully executed and carried out fully and completely.

### Green Says Agreements Are Sacred

"Thus the NLRB in its decisions setting aside valid agreements is destroying the sacredness of contracts and, as we believe, striking a blow at collective bargaining.

"We did not ask Senator Wagner to commit himself as to his attitude toward the law or toward clarifying amendments at this time. We emphasized the necessity of his understanding the policy pursued by the board in its decisions and the way those decisions have adversely affected the A. F. of L. We requested the Senator to investigate all the complaints we submitted, to go into the matter fully and then later we asked the privilege of discussing the subject with him more fully."